

URBANA, IL- Lester Thomas Pritchard, 60, of Urbana, passed away at 10:33 A.M., Monday, October 12, 2009 at Carle Foundation Hospital, Urbana.

A Memorial Service will be held 11:00 A.M., Friday, October 16, 2009 at the Stratford Park Bible Chapel, 2801 W. Kirby Ave., Champaign. Memorial Receptions will be held 5-9 P.M., Wednesday, October 14th and 5-9P.M., Thursday, October 15th at New Covenant Fellowship, 124 W. White St., Champaign. Renner-Wikoff Chapel, Urbana, is handling arrangements.

Mr. Pritchard was born September 25, 1949 in Galesburg, IL, a son of William and Barbara Bauer Pritchard. He married Barbara Cotter on November 17, 1990 in Urbana, Illinois, who survives him. He is also survived by a sister, Sarah (David) Nielsen of Naperville, IL, and two brothers, Bill (Jennifer) Pritchard of New Orleans, LA and John (Jane) Pritchard of Galesburg, IL. One step-brother, Christopher (Regina) Pritchard of Louisville, Colorado and several nieces and nephews also survive. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Mr. Pritchard graduated from the University of Illinois and was a disability rights activist on the local, state and federal levels. He was appointed by the Governor to chair the Illinois Council on Developmental Disabilities, and he was on the Board of Champaign County Healthcare Consumers. Mr. Pritchard was co-founder of the Campaign For Real Choice In Illinois and he was a board member and board chair for P.A.C.E. He also served 16 years as a member of the Urbana Human Relations Commission.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to: Campaign For Real Choice In Illinois, P.O. Box 17551, Urbana, IL 61803.