

Formerly of rural Everest, KS

Michael L. Carter, 73, of Carrollton, passed away peacefully on Sunday, September 23, 2012, at his home. The family will be receiving friends at Gibson Funeral Home, 201 South Main, Carrollton, Mo., on Sunday, September 30, from 3 to 4 p.m. A memorial service will be held at the funeral home on Sunday, September 30, at 4 p.m. with Reverend Williams officiating.

He was born in Lawrence, Kansas. He graduated Shawnee Mission High School and attended Kansas State University. He was an avid farmer with properties in Shawnee and Everest, Kansas. He enjoyed traveling with his wife of 54 years, Carol. But perhaps his true hobby was radio. He started his career in the 1960s at 940 AM KIOA in Des Moines, Iowa. He was also employed at KMBZ in Kansas City. Mike and fellow KMBZ employee Bill Bilyeu then decided to form their own radio station in Hiawatha, Kansas. KNZA went on the air in August of 1977. He came to Carrollton in 1981 and purchased KAOL AM & FM in 1983. Four years later the FM was re-branded as KMZU "The Farm." He bought and owned WHB in Kansas City from 1993 to 1999. Around that same time, KANZA Communications acquired 93.5 FM KTRX in Tarkio. In 1996, he formed a new station "103.9 FM KRLI. He spent his retirement years compiling music to pass on to this, and future, generations.

He is survived by his soul mate and devoted wife, Carol; his loving son, Miles Carter and his wife, Marsha; four loving daughters, Christina Kiehl, Anita Mertz and her husband, Keith, Lynn Hammond and her husband, Russ, and Kathleen Kirzeder; 28 grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister Suzann Maloney. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Carrie Miller, his father, Houston Carter, and his mother Fern R. Stone.

Memorials are suggested to the St. Jude's Children's Hospital or H.E.L.P. Services Cancer Fund.