



## Gerald Lee Birgy Sr.

June 20, 1935 - September 20, 2024

Gerald Lee Birgy Sr. 89, of Fife Lake, passed away peacefully on September 20, 2024, at Kalkaska Memorial Health Center - Long Term Care. Born on June 20, 1935, in Garfield Township, he was the son of the late Leo and Elsie (Haskin) Birgy. Gerald was raised in the Fife Lake area, where, from a young age, he took on the responsibility of helping care for his family. In 1953, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force to serve the country he deeply loved, but his military service was cut short due to medical reasons. Throughout his life, Gerald became the rock and patriarch of his family. He had a profound love for his family, extended relatives, and all people. Known for his kindness, he treated everyone with equal respect and without judgment. This deep affection for others was evident in his extensive volunteer work. Gerald was a founding member of the first school board for Forest Area Schools, a charter member of American Legion Post 219 in Fife Lake, and a proud participant in the Honor Guard. He also dedicated many years to the Boy Scouts, Little League, and served as a volunteer firefighter. Professionally, Gerald was a master electrician, celebrated not only for his skill but also for the artistry he brought to his work. Outside of his professional and volunteer endeavors, he found joy in many pastimes, including restoring classic cars, riding motorcycles, golfing, hunting, fishing, and traveling. Gerald is survived by his beloved wife, Lillian; his children: Tom (Elaine) Birgy, Vicky (Karl) Wittbold, David (Candy) Birgy, Gerald (Tamara) Birgy, and Lori (Scott) Gruse-Lowes; his many cherished grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren; and his

brothers, Mike Birgy and Alan Birgy. He was preceded in death by his parents, his son-in-law Larry Prough, and his siblings Beverly Webb, Sharon Melchert, John Birgy, and Leo Birgy. A celebration of Gerald's life will be held on Monday, September 30, 2024 at the American Legion Post 219 in Fife Lake. Family and friends are invited to gather from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., with the service beginning at 11:00 a.m. Burial will follow at 3:00 p.m. at Clark Cemetery in Fife Lake. In honor of Gerald's legacy, memorial contributions may be made to the American Legion Post 219, Fife Lake. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

# Cemetery Details

## Springfield Township Cemetery (Clark Cemetery)

10995 Coster Rd.  
Fife Lake, MI 49633

# Previous Events

## Family & Friends Gathering

SEP 30. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

American Legion - Post 219  
10283 M-186  
Fife Lake, MI 49633

## Celebration of Life

SEP 30. 11:00 AM (ET)

American Legion - Post 219  
10283 M-186  
Fife Lake, MI 49633

# Tribute Wall

LH

“ So sorry Birgy family. We spent several years with Jerry and Lil at RioDelSol and the car club in Traverse. Many fun times for sure. We are not able to attend his service. Dick and Linda Homrich

Linda Homrich - September 30, 2024 at 09:57 AM

PS

“ Paula, Mark, Tara & Oliver Semple purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gerald Lee Birgy Sr..



Paula, Mark, Tara & Oliver Semple - September 26, 2024 at 01:53 PM

GS

“ I had the pleasure of meeting Jerry on a few occasions and it was completely my pleasure. I know that Jerry Jr. thought the world of him and for good reason. I offer my deepest condolences in this incredibly tough time. I wish you all strength and peace. Sincerely, Garth

Garth Story - September 25, 2024 at 05:00 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gerald Lee Birgy Sr..



September 24, 2024 at 07:30 PM

DG

“ *Always a gentleman...a gentle giant! Jerry was so humble and kind and I loved him dearly.*



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**Deb Haskin Gullekson** - September 24, 2024 at 11:02 AM