

Gerald D. Gaultier

April 11, 1934 - September 13, 2020

Gerald “Jerry” Douglas Gaultier, 86, of South Boardman, passed away Sunday, September 13, 2020. Gerald was born at the family home in South Boardman to the late Vere “Tony” and Eleanor (Johnson) Gaultier on April 11, 1934. He graduated from Kalkaska High School in 1952; he was the class president and a member of the National Honor Society. After high school Jerry attended Michigan Tech University for two years. Jerry married the love of his life, Elaine Brockway, on October 15, 1954. He proudly served in the US Air Force; training as a B-47 jet mechanic where he achieved the highest class standing. He served in the Strategic Air Command for the 344th Bombardment Squadron and later served as an Air Force Reservist in the Traverse City unit. Jerry primarily worked in construction and excavation throughout his career, he was also able to do surveying, drafting, and was a natural mechanic who could use whatever he could find to fix something. In what little spare time Jerry could find he loved to be outdoors, especially in the upper peninsula; whether it was hunting, trout fishing, muzzle loading, or going to the Oshkosh Air Show. He enjoyed his tractors, was a gun enthusiast and a member of the NRA for 46 years. Jerry was always an extremely generous person and gave of himself and his time to anyone in need. Jerry attended the South Boardman United Methodist Church for his entire life, where he served many years as a board member. He served on the Kalkaska Memorial Health Center’s Board of Trustees for 46 years; Jerry was a visionary for the hospital and was instrumental in its continuation and

expansion through the years. He also served as the Boardman Township Supervisor for 45 years. He was a longtime member of the Kalkaska Kiwanis Club and the South Boardman American Legion, served as a County Commissioner for a term, and on the South Boardman School Board. Gerald will lovingly be remembered by his wife Elaine, children Douglas Gaultier, Shaleen Gualtieri, Toni Gaultier and Melanie McTaggart, five grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren, siblings Rodney (Wanita) Gaultier and Judith Gualtieri. He was preceded in death by his parents. A graveside service will be held Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 2:00 pm at Boardman Township Cemetery in South Boardman. Arrangements have been entrusted to Kalkaska Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Tribute Wall

LG

“ *Jerry's deep roots and big heart are left as footprints. I pray his family finds peace and understanding and we all carry our memories and what we've learned from him for the rest of our days. Honorably.*

Linda Giganti-Pierson - September 25, 2020 at 11:56 AM

RH

“ *Condolences to the family. Jerry was a good friend to my father for many years and always interesting to talk to.*

Richard Hoogesteger

Richard Hoogesteger - September 20, 2020 at 11:52 PM

JL

“ *3 files added to the tribute wall*



jerri leaf - September 19, 2020 at 11:45 PM

WS

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Wes S - September 17, 2020 at 04:25 PM

SA

“ We had such fond memories of Jerry. He was a great visionary for Kalkaska Memorial Health Center. I always respected his wise words which he shared in a positive thoughtful way.
I also served in Kiwanis and especially have memories of him making pancakes and cooking corn on the cob.
We also used Jerry's excavating and septic business and found him to be helpful, educational and reasonable.
I loved to hear his stories about his military days, cooking his favorite spaghetti sauce and family times!
Our thoughts and prayers are with you.
Randy & Sheila Atwood

Sheila and Randy Atwood - September 17, 2020 at 08:32 AM

TL

“ This man meant the world to me and to our family. His obituary highlights his times of service, but there are things it doesn't say... he was a volunteer Santa and was known for his “Ho Ho Ho.” He believed in heaven and the afterlife, and went to church every Sunday. He loved his dog Cinnamon fiercely. He was always warning the children not to walk behind vehicles or jump off things that were too high, always afraid we would hurt ourselves while he ran around climbing out of backhoes and hitting his head on loader buckets. Leaving us all now was a true surprise to him but he did it with such strength, dignity, and courage. He would drive miles and miles out of his way to spend fifteen minutes over coffee or thousands of miles to bring you home. He would make snow hills with his loader bucket and guilt himself about the time he forgot to buckle you into the truck bench and you slid out the other side in a snowsuit. He was so proud of his grandkids and their accomplishments, and wanted us all to remember his stories. He told the night before Christmas with a lisp to make us laugh and ended a visit with “Dont slip on the ice!” He played Patsy Cline in the truck when I was little and let me talk on his CB. He bought me my first revolver, pocket knife, and watch. He drew Donald Duck, Trucks and dogs to make us smile. He loved The Quiet Man and McLintock, and read westerns as long as they weren't a series. I loved his singing voice, it was the deepest rumble. He walked me down the aisle in a rainstorm. I don't care if this is too personal, this was the man I knew. And he will be forever loved and missed.



Toni Leaf-Odette - September 17, 2020 at 07:57 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gerald D. Gaultier.*



September 16, 2020 at 11:21 PM



“ *A sad day indeed for me on learning of your passing brother. Never knew you served in the Air Force. Always enjoyed time chatting with you when you were parts shopping for your trucks and equipment. I must be getting old as all my elders seem to be leaving me. World won't be the same without you good sir. Till we meet again! My condolences to the family.*

Allen Jackson - September 16, 2020 at 06:53 PM



“ *Condolences from the BORIDE Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gerald D. Gaultier.*



Condolences from the BORIDE Family - September 16, 2020 at 10:50 AM



“ *Touching Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Gerald D. Gaultier.*



September 16, 2020 at 09:52 AM

CH

“ Elaine I am very sorry for your loss. Jerry was a wonderful man in so many ways. He will be greatly missed by me and my family.

Christie Hoenicke and Jennifer Shock



Christie Hoenicke - September 16, 2020 at 08:19 AM


TS

“ Jerry was one of my most favorite people in all the world. He was an absolute gentleman. I have known Jerry since I was 7 years old. He was 1 of 3 people I felt everybody knew, along Ally Cross and Russ Campbell.

You will be fondly remembered by my family and I. I will miss you Jerry! Have fun in your eternal resting place, Heaven! You deserve it.

*Love Teresa and Stewart Smith
The Donathan Boys - Benjamin, Paul and Damien*

Teresa Smith - September 16, 2020 at 07:56 AM

 Josh
Krumlauf

“ Jerry was a great friend and a second grandfather to me and will be greatly missed. His wit and intelligence were traits I always admired greatly and I will be praying for his family in this time of grief.

Josh Krumlauf - September 15, 2020 at 09:21 PM

MH

“ So sorry for your loss. He will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Steve & Marri Hogerheide

Marri Hogerheide - September 15, 2020 at 09:17 PM