



Gerald Bryan

APR 19, 1947 - FEB 9, 2009



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Gerald Bryan, 61, of Camanche, died Monday, February 9, 2009, at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, in Iowa City, Iowa. Funeral services will be 9:00 AM, Friday, February 13, 2009, at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Camanche, with Dr. Donald Batz officiating. Serving as pallbearers will be Willard Larsen, Ed Hupfer, Ron Emerson, Curt Weispfenning, Chris Turner, and Doug Orte. Due to Gerry's desire to be buried at the Iowa Veteran's Cemetery in Adel, Iowa, there will not be a luncheon following the services. Visitation will be from 4:00 - 7:00 PM on Thursday, February 12, at the Clinton Chapel Snell-Zornig Funeral Home and Crematory. Gerald Ross Bryan was born on April 19, 1947, in Winnipeg, Canada, the son of Orville and Betty (Jackson) Bryan. He and Patricia Etzen were united in marriage on June 4, 1977, in Ames, Iowa. After graduating from Martinsville High School in Indiana in 1965, Gerry joined the United States Air Force and served from 1965 to 1968, including a year in Vietnam as a sentry dog handler. Following his discharge from the Air Force, he attended Augustana College in Sioux Falls, where he earned both his Bachelors and Masters degrees in Education. From 1975 until his retirement in 2005, Gerry was a Special Education teacher at Camanche Middle School. During those years he worked with the CEA to provide a better education environment, becoming a "go-to" guy with questions regarding contractual issues. Prior to teaching in Camanche, he taught in Canton, South Dakota, and Mediapolis, Iowa. As a member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church, Gerry participated in the choir and was currently serving as a trustee. In his free time, he enjoyed reading, metal detecting, watching and discussing sports, and collecting Boy Scout knives, an outcome of his youth when he achieved the Eagle Scout Award. Gerry is survived by his wife, Pat; his son Benjamin Bryan, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi; his daughter LauraJo Bryan, of Clinton; his son Joshua Bryan, of Portland, Oregon; his two brothers Gordon Bryan, of Scotland, and Garry



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Bryan, of Mesa, Arizona. When he and Pat married, her family realized what a kind, loving person Gerry was and he immediately became a sibling in her family as well. He will be greatly missed by Ann Etzen, Lois and Charles Phelps, Millie and Fred Robinson, Phyllis and Gary Scheeler, and all their children. He was preceded in death by his parents and Pat's father. Memorials may be made to the American Cancer Society or St. Mark's United Methodist Church.



Tribute Wall

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JF

Jim Foster posted:

Gerald, you and I went to school and played football together in high school and you were a great teammate. I always valued your insight. Later we both served in the AF - thanks for your service and Welcome Home. bro!

February 8 at 7:00 PM

TA

Troy Alderman posted:

Mr.Bryan touched my life in so many ways i don't know where to start. Mr.Bryan was my LD teacher and he taught me that no matter what type of disability you have. You are no different than anyone else. In one year he took me from an F student to the B honor roll. That was 26 years ago and i will never forget it. Thank You Mr.Bryan for all the lives and hearts you have touched. You will be greatly missed!!!Troy Alderman

February 8 at 7:00 PM

CB

Clyde & Patty Bradley posted:

Pat and Family: We are so sorry to hear about Gerry. We are in Texas for the winter but we are there in spirit. We know your family knows the Lord and He is there to comfort you. We will continue to keep you in our prayers. Clyde & Patty Bradley

February 8 at 7:00 PM

DB

Daniel Barton posted:

To the Bryan Family:My prayers go out to your family on the passing of your veteran, husband, and father. Ben is my fraternity brother, and reading his Dad's life history writes a lot like that of Ben and the man he is. Ben truly leaves a mark on everyone he comes in contact with - everyone seems to be a friend - and I love him like a brother. God Bless your family and know that God hears your prayers.

February 8 at 7:00 PM



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EW

Ebby Whitford posted:

Pat, I was so shocked to learned on Gerry's passing. Wish I could be there to hug you. I know your family and friends will be there to comfort you and the kids. But most importantly, God has welcomed Gerry to his heavenly home. Your faith will sustain you. We have lost a special guy. As ever, Ebby

February 8 at 7:00 PM

KV

Kevin & Nancy Vanzuiden posted:

Pat & family- Our heart goes out to you at this most difficult time. I remember many good times working with Gerry as he served as the Board Chairman and I the Financial Secretary as well as Kevin and he on the board together. They're couldn't be any nicer a man and he will be missed by all who knew him.

February 8 at 7:00 PM

SH

Sally Harris posted:

I can't find words to express my feelings and thoughts when I learned of Gerry's passing. The discussions Gerry and I had about the Iowa sports teams, our 2 trips to the Indy 500, constructing toys for the kids together when they were young. All those memories overwhelmed my heart. This day came far too early.

February 8 at 7:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gerald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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