



Gerald Euell Gilman

March 25, 1929 - November 3, 2020

Gerald Euell Gilman age 91, of Edwardsville, passed away on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. He was born March 25, 1929, in Flat River, MO, the son of the late George & Blanche (White) Gilman. He is survived by his loving wife Dr. Marcia Custer; daughter, Terri Marty; sons, G. Bruce Gilman (Ann), Rudge Gilman (Jenny); granddaughters, Jean Marie Cox (Joe), Caitlin Custer(Jenny), Molly Johnson, Kylie Moberly, Molly Gilman, Kasey Gilman, Ciara Adams, Mackenzie Wuellner; grandsons, J. Louis Marty (Wendy), Mitchell Gilman (Erin) & Cory Johnson: and sister, Priscilla DeVine (Dale). Gerald was preceded in death by both parents, 2 sister, Berniece & Virginia; a nephew, Reggie Duvall; and a grandson, Gregory Scott Marty. He was a loving great grandfather, great-great grandfather, uncle, friend and neighbor.

Gerald was always proud to have grown up in St. Francois County. He considered Flat River (Park Hills) MO his hometown. He attended the 50th & 75th reunion of his high school graduating class. Gerald was a veteran of the U.S. Air Force and served in The Korean War. He was a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University & Vanderbilt University, where he earned his Master of Education Degree. He has a long career as an educator and was the first Principal of McCurdy Elementary School in the Hazelwood School District, and retired after many years of service to the Hazelwood School District. Gerald was a lifelong fan of all sports but he particularly loved high school basketball & football and St. Louis Cardinal baseball. After retirement he and his wife traveled extensively. He lived in Edwardsville for many years and further developed his lifelong passion for gardening. He was a certified Master Gardener and the caretaker of the Grandview entry garden for more than two decades.

It was his wish to be remembered with joy and humor. He told his family “I tried to always look on the sunny side and keep a sense of humor.”

According to his wishes his body was donated to the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. A private family service will be held at a later date.

Comments



“ Our heartfelt condolences to Marcia and family. Remembering him as a gentleman.

Linda and Gary Short - November 15, 2020 at 01:18 PM



“ 8 files added to the album LifeTributes



Weber & Rodney Funeral Homes - November 06, 2020 at 02:57 PM



“ 2 files added to the album LifeTributes



Bruce Gilman - November 06, 2020 at 12:58 PM



“ 89 files added to the album LifeTributes



Weber & Rodney Funeral Homes - November 06, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ Gerry took me on as a newbie to the senior golf league. I shared a golf cart many Thursday mornings, and in all those times he exhibited all the characteristics of a gentleman and helped me to enjoy the experience of the course.
Thomas G. Puhse Jr.

Tom Puhse - November 06, 2020 at 11:45 AM



“ 89 files added to the album LifeTributes

Weber & Rodney Funeral Homes - November 06, 2020 at 10:13 AM



“ I went through McCurdy Elementary and remembered him. May he rest in Peace and to the family may you find peace in God Almighty's love.

Tom Baird - November 06, 2020 at 02:47 AM



“ Mr Gilman was my elementary school principal and my neighbor. Memories of him walking the halls with those keys....throwing them up and catching them behind his back. And the masks!! Poking his head in the door with a mask on and scaring the heck out of us. That was way back when the teachers could hug us students when we left and things were much simpler. Or the principal could paddle us when we needed it. (I only needed it once) lol
He really was the backbone of that school and i know i speak for many of the McCurdy alumni when i say Mr Gilman was a huge part in what made that school amazing. He will be greatly missed by many. My condolences to his family.

Michelle Gholson Koerber - November 05, 2020 at 11:00 PM



“ I remember him being the principal at McCurdy Elementary. Several of my friends and I were caught playing football. Every one of my friends got swats, but he just called my dad and said my dad would handle the situation when I got home. That was worse than getting swats. Will miss him dearly. Anthony Jones

Anthony Jones - November 05, 2020 at 10:44 PM



“ When I was entering sixth grade at Jana Elementary, we found out that due to overcrowding, they were going to divide the sixth grade, sending 1/3 of us to McCurdy Elementary. I was so unsure. Mr. Gilman visited me at my home to make me feel more comfortable, and found a way for us bus riders to serve on safety patrol for the afternoon kindergarten, and encouraged me to become involved. He would always offer me a piece of candy when I said hello to him in the halls. When my sixth grade teacher missed the first bell one day, the handful of us bus riders were stranded at school. Mr. Gilman actually drove us all home! I share these wonderful memories because of the five years I had been at Jana, I never met the principal. I thought he was scary. In my one year at McCurdy, I was made to feel welcome. It was a friendly environment, and I liked it there. I can assure you it had everything to do with Mr. Gilman. I will never forget him. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and friends.

Sincerely, Sandy (Raetzloff) Bowles

Sandy Bowles - November 05, 2020 at 09:31 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald Euell Gilman.



November 05, 2020 at 09:26 PM



“ Bruce and Ann, I saw on our Hazelwood 73 site about your loss. I read about your father Bruce and no wonder you are such a good person. I wish the entire family deepest heart felt condolences. Jeff Saeger

Jeff Saeger - November 05, 2020 at 09:08 PM



“ My deepest condolences to your family. Such a sweet, nice man/principal ever! If he only knew what a impression he made on his students. Such memories living near him etc. So kind. I had him at McCurdy. I'm 53. Sorry for your loss.



Angie west McKenna - November 05, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ Rudge, Sending our prayers to your family.

vern and Cindy Aslin - November 05, 2020 at 08:29 PM



“ Uncle Bear was one of the nicest person I had the pleasure of knowing. I remember visits on Boulder Drive and having ice cream. I remember visiting him at McCurdy school when I wanted to see him. I know he loved me because he gave me much attention and smiles. My husband and brothers appreciated him because he let the kids play Hockey on the parking lot after school was let out. He was well like by many!

Mary Silver - November 05, 2020 at 08:16 PM



“ I lived nextdoor to Mr. Gilman in Florissant between 1972 and 1981 when I left for the Navy. He was a Great Principal and a genuinely Good Man. He was always ready to listen and to offer guidance. I've thought about him for years and am grateful to know he lived a long and productive life. He served his country, his community and his family. I can only hope to leave such a legacy. - Bob Bowman

Bob Bowman - November 05, 2020 at 07:22 PM



“ Mr. Gilman was my 6th grade teacher, 1964-65, at Charbonier School. We watched the Cardinals-Yankees world series (played during the day then) on a black and white tv he brought in. I would occasionally see him around Florissant in the 70's and we'd have coffee. I talked to about 5 years ago on the phone. He was my favorite teacher of all. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Mark Polansky

Mark Polansky - November 05, 2020 at 06:31 PM



“ Gerry was a friend my grandpa, Quinten Eihausen, and then we were lucky enough to become neighbors in Grandview for several years. My son Joe loved strolling by the rock garden in his wagon and finding all of the treasures, while Gerry and I talked about being educators in the Hazelwood District. My family sends our deepest condolences. With love, Lauren and Eric Meyer and family

Lauren Meyer - November 05, 2020 at 08:26 AM



“ your baby girl with Love, Terri purchased the Fall Fantasia for the family of Gerald Euell Gilman.



your baby girl with Love, Terri - November 04, 2020 at 05:11 PM



“ Your Husband and Father was a great and caring man. I had the Pleasure of cutting his hair for a number of years and always enjoyed his visits. He was missed when he stop seeing us. May God bless all of you and your family.

Daryel Buesking

Daryel Buesking - November 04, 2020 at 01:24 PM



“ Bruce & Ann, sorry to read about your loss. You have my sympathy. Prayers to the whole family.

Debbie (Covert) Hammer

Debbie (Covert) Hammer - November 05, 2020 at 07:03 PM



“ Sincere sympathy to the Gilman families. Wow, what a guy! Worked with Gerry in the Hazelwood Schools for over 20 years. He made all of our lives better. Took many photos of the McCurdy Maypole celebration, a signature Principal Gilman event. Still have vivid memories of the fun we had at administrative "retreats," where Gerry was a prime source of kidding and laughter among his friends Tony, Spencer, and others. Loved his passion for the Central Hawks football team. Loved how he lit up a room when he came in. Will be missed and always treasured.

Howard Emerson - November 10, 2020 at 09:34 AM