



Gerald Donnay

October 8, 1935 - December 8, 2011

Gerald Hubert Donnay was born on October 8, 1935 to Nicholas and Frances (Schriefels) Donnay in Watkins, MN. He passed away, surrounded by his family at his home in Wadena, on December 7, 2011, under the gentle care of Tri-County Hospital Hospice. Gerald served in the U.S. Army from 1954 until his honorable discharge in 1957. He and Lucille Wolters were married in Belle River on May 23, 1966 at St. Nicholas Catholic Church. He lived in the Wadena community since 1961, and many will remember and appreciate his talents as an auto mechanic. He was a member of the Knights of Columbus and Crosier Apostolate. He found joy in gardening, baking, and watching sports. Gerald was preceded in death by his parents Nicholas and Frances in 1965. He is survived by his loving wife Lucille; sons Fr. Dave Donnay, osc, of Phoenix, AZ, Dennis (Jenny) Donnay of St. Louis Park, Edward Donnay of Abilene, TX, and Michael Donnay of Perham; grandchildren Joshua and Amanda; brother Marcus Donnay of Chelsea, MA; sisters Evelyn Decker of Cold Spring, Ethelyn Hilsgen of Watkins, Mary Ann Stommes of Cold Spring, Betty Kelm of Eden Valley, Barbara Kalkbrenner of Litchfield, and Theresa Hettwer, of Buffalo. The Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, December 12, 2011, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Wadena, with celebrants Fr. Dave Donnay and Fr. Donald Wagner. Pallbearers were Paul Hilsgen, Charles Becker, Jim Kelm, Phil Thoennes, Jan Pexsa, and Kevin Goeden. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery in Wadena.

Tribute Wall

DH

“ Lucille and sons, please accept my sympathies on the passing of Gerald. I am so grateful to have gotten the privilege to meet him (and you) for the very first time. May God Bless you in the days, weeks to come!

Diane Hahn - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

BO

“ My prayers are with you during this time of sadness in your family. Peace,

Brother Jim Lewandowski

Bro. Jim Lewandowski, osc - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

PT

“ It was a privilege for me to spend some time with Gerry and Lucille in Gerry's final weeks. I am glad 3 of us KC members were their to pray with Gerry just 6 hours before he passed away. I think Gerry knew his time on this earth was short, and he was at peace with that. May God welcome him into Heaven!! Our prayers and sympathy are with your family.

Sincerely; Phil and Barb

Phil and Barb Thoennes - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ It was always a real treat to talk to Jerry and his Wife and their special friends at Mc Donalds. They were always there before we were and always asked about our work stocking the Food Shelf. Jerry had a smile that filled the whole room! This ever changing world of ours is missing a radiant smile and we are all so blessed for having seen it. My sympathy to his Wife and the rest of his family. His friends will have their wonderful memories and I shall remember that smile.

Rest In Peace

Sally Schaffhausen - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Lucy and family,
I was very saddened to hear of Jerry's passing. I have many memories of coming up to visit you in Wadena or seeing you at the farm by Glenwood. I won't be able to make it to the funeral, but please know that our thoughts and prayers are with all of you.

Mark & Susan Benson

Susan Benson - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Lucy and boys-we are so sorry to hear that Jerry passed away. It seems too soon but must have been God's time. I remember coming to your wedding and the first little house you lived in. And in later years, Jerry delivered our mail. May the loss be gentle and the memories what sustain you in the days ahead. God bless you.....

Donna and Duane Trana - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ I AM SO SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS.. HE FOUGHT A GOOD FIGHT...ONLY THE LORD KNOWS WHY IT HAD TO BE THIS WAY. STAY STRONG AND APPRECIATE EVERY DAY WE ARE GIVEN...MAY GOD BLESS YOUR FAMILY AND GIVE YOU PEACE AND COMFORT.

JEFF LEE - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

GO

“ *Continued Blessings on each of you as you continue to mourn the loss of husband, father, grandfather.*

Know of my prayers during this difficult time in your lives.

gus schloesser, osc - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *Dave, my father passed about 11 years ago and there is not a day that goes by that I don't think of him and the special gifts he gave to me with is love and wisdom. May you grieve prayerfully and with laughter.*

Sharon Henrich - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Dear Dave donnay and family, Words cannot express my symphanys to you. Gerry was more than a father in law to me, he was like a "dad" to me.. He made a tremendous impact on me. I will always remember him for his wonderful smile, his warm loving hugs he gave me every time we came to visit. Him saying to us, "take two their small", when we were offered sweets.. He showed me the "sign" of christ's love at the tec center.. I will miss him greatly, but I also know that he is in each of his wonderful son's faces and personality".. He is with the Lord now.. Looking down on each of you and smiling from ear to ear.. God bless you Gerry, we love you," and miss you." My prayers are with you boys and Lucille," May you rest in peace," Love jenny Donnay

Jenny Donnay - December 08, 2011 at 12:00 AM