



Gerald W. Ward

July 17, 1946 - December 17, 2020

NORFOLK — No services will be held at this time for Gerald W. Ward, 74, of Madison. He died Thursday, Dec. 17, 2020, at Faith Regional Health Services.

Stonacek Funeral Chapel in Norfolk was in charge of the arrangements.

Gerald W. Ward was born July 17, 1946, in Valentine to Delbert and Phyllis (Farley) Ward. He grew up in Valentine and graduated from Valentine High School in 1964,

After graduating from high school, Gerald served his country in the United States Navy from June 5, 1964, to July 14, 1967. After his time with the Navy, he worked as a butcher in Ainsworth. He later moved to Albion as a butcher, after that he moved to Madison in 1974. In Madison he worked at IBP when it first opened until his health went bad causing Gerald to take some time off from work. Once Gerald felt healthy enough he went to work for the City of Madison for a few years. Gerald eventually went back to IBP/Tyson until his retirement.

Gerald got his name Grandpa Cookies because when the grandkids used to go over to see him he would have a cookie jar full of cookies for the kids. Then one day his grandkids started to call him Grandpa Cookies. Grandpa loved being around his grandkids and enjoyed having them around. He would go fishing with them whenever he could. Gerald enjoyed being around and talking to his friends and family.

Gerald had a routine every day with a two-mile walk along with his coffee at Brady & Amy's with his friends. Everyone who knew Gerald knew he enjoyed teasing people for their reaction and then he would do his little laugh. In his free time he would work in his garden, feed the birds and watch countless old Westerns. Beyond this, he was an antique collector to anything that caught his eye which also includes old radios and sculptures. Gerald liked to attend auctions and casinos to visit with people. Gerald was really proud to be a Vietnam veteran of the United States Navy, and was really proud that he was on the USS Yorktown when he served. He always had the love for his ships.

Survivors include his children, Sharlene Ward of Ainsworth, Sandra Throckmorton of Lincoln, Grace (Nick) Strudl of Columbus and Floyd (Pamela) Ward of Norfolk; 12 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; brothers Bob Ward and Ken (Kathy) Ward; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Delbert and Phyllis, and brother David.

Condolences may be expressed to the family online at www.stonacekfuneralchapel.com.

Tribute Wall

MR

“ So sorry to hear that he is gone. Seems like yesterday we dealing on an old engine that he wanted to sell..Gonna really miss him.

Michael Reeves - December 28, 2020 at 01:10 AM

SW

“ Sharon Ward lit a candle in memory of Gerald W. Ward



Sharon Ward - December 26, 2020 at 05:29 PM

SG

“ This candle reminds me of when we planted our first rose bush.



SHARON WARD/ GOLF - December 26, 2020 at 03:26 PM

GS

“ Grace Strudl lit a candle in memory of Gerald W. Ward



Grace Strudl - December 26, 2020 at 11:21 AM

SW

“ Sharlene Ward lit a candle in memory of Gerald W. Ward



Sharlene ward - December 26, 2020 at 09:09 AM

LA

“ Always enjoyed selling tools to your dad He was so much fun to talk to he will be missed

Larry - December 23, 2020 at 09:02 AM

GS

“ We had a wonderful father he touched many lives he loves his Birds and he loved all his grandkids and kids and he still had a peace heart four mom he had a heart of gold and everybody loved is love laugh my talking buddy reminder not talk very long but if I needed someone he was always there for me he loved his Moon and he loved looking at his window at it he couldn't see it it is kitchen window he went to his bedroom window and looked I might have called him once a day sometimes twice a day if I'd we wasn't feeling bad I would have called I called him more than one day when more than one time a day he always be in their hearts he never leave us go but he will always be there for us no matter what us kids know we learn something the day we seen him in the window in the hospital we found out he has a beautiful voice that nobody did know he sang his last goodbyes to all its kids and that was a set of things that be ever had to go through the one thing we want to do is tell everybody in Madison specially the people in the coffee shop he always went to have coffee and take his Lottery that you guys always have a little special place in our heart for taking care of our dad when we was around he Laughed Until and said is have anybody been number one that's our little joke that everybody knows that he would just the guy I wish everybody would see how wonderful man he always would be he never knew how lucky he always have people that care one thing about my dad he loved it delivered Meals on Wheels that was a special thing for her to help out people I'm just grateful that everybody in the town knew my dad and love them and I always have a sign I have eagles fly over my house I tell my husband oh look there goes my dad's flying over now I know he's up in heaven with his mom and dad and his brother Dave and he's happy he's not suffering no more we are missing him all the time there's not a day that's passing now that I want to get on the phone when I call him but I know he knew that I had a great husband and he knew that should be taken care of if something ever happened to him I just wanted to say I left the device to him I just wanted you guys to know how much this meant to everybody so I do give my condolences to my brothers and sisters and my mom I love you all

Grace Strudl - December 22, 2020 at 11:59 PM

CW

“ I send my heartfelt prayers to all Gerald's family in their time of loss. As David's widow I understand the grief and my memories of Gerald are that he was a true character and loved a good story or joke. Buffet meals were his favorite! I will never forget his laugh.

Connie Ward - December 22, 2020 at 08:42 PM

MS

“ So sorry for your loss. Gerald was a hard working person. He loved going to auctions & buying antiques. He was a good friend of my husband Bernie. They both loved those auctions & antiques. I knew your family since you moved to Madison. You were my neighbor. He liked visiting with my mother also. We miss him a lot at coffee breaks at Brady & Amy's. May he rest in peace.

Mary Jo Staib

Mary Staib - December 22, 2020 at 07:36 PM

TW

“ Ted & Jan Widhalm sent a virtual gift in memory of Gerald W. Ward



Ted & Jan Widhalm - December 22, 2020 at 06:10 PM

TW

We are sorry for your loss. Jerry will be missed by you his family and his many friends. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ted & Jan Widhalm - December 22, 2020 at 06:14 PM

VH

“ So sorry to hear of Gary's death, especially so soon after his brother David's death. I am a cousin to the children of Delbert and Phyllis Ward. My Mother Grace Stevenson was a sister to Delbert Ward. Out of the four children of Robert and Grace Stevenson, only my brother Robert Stevenson and I , Virginia Ruth Horton, are living. My two sisters Alice A. Engles Jones and Izen I. Ratzlaff have passed away.

I have many memories of playing with my Ward cousins in Valentine, Nebraska. We had many activities at the home of our Grandmother Maude Ward's and Alberta Ward's home. One summer, when my Mother was in the hospital, I spent a number of weeks at the Delbert and Phyllis Ward's home near Meriman, Nebraska.

Virginia R. Horton, P O Box 294, Coolidge, AZ 85128

Virginia R. Horton - December 22, 2020 at 03:00 AM

CM

“ *Our deepest sympathies. We always enjoyed visiting with Gerald at the senior center, and I enjoyed visiting with him in the mornings while walking in the auditorium. May he rest In Peace. Al and Cindy Masur*

Cindy and Al Masur - December 21, 2020 at 06:03 PM