



Gerald L. Grosenheider

May 18, 1924 - January 16, 2020

Dateline: Godfrey

Gerald L. Grosenheider passed away peacefully at home on January 16, 2020 at age 95. He was born May 18, 1924 on a farm in Leef Township in Madison County, Illinois, the son of the late Clarence and Vivian (Foulke) Grosenheider. Gerald was a member of America's "Greatest Generation", serving as a U.S. Navy fighter pilot on carriers in the South Pacific during World War II and receiving numerous awards and citations for his bravery. During the war years, he met and married the love of his life, Ida Mae Dallape after only 14 dates. They were married on November 14, 1944 in Watsonville, California by Navy Chaplain Charles Robison Allen. Gerald and Ida were an incredibly close couple who enjoyed 62 years of devoted marriage until Ida's death in 2006. They had two children, Pamela and Ronny and made their home in Godfrey, Illinois. Gerald was a member of the VFW Post 1308, the Fleet Reserve Association Branch 53 and the U.S. Navy Squadron 33 Association and a long-term active member of Faith Lutheran Church in Godfrey. After the war, Gerald worked at the Owens-Illinois machine manufacturing plant where he served as shop superintendent in charge of production until he retired in 1983 after 37 years of service. During retirement Gerald enjoyed traveling with Ida and devoting time to his grandchildren and great grandchildren who all loved and adored their PawPaw. He also loved playing dominoes, telling stories and reading, especially history and the biographies of historical figures he admired. PawPaw was an avid St. Louis Cardinals fan,

appreciated his daily scotch while watching the evening news and viewed each day of his life as a gift.

Mr. Grosenheider is survived by his two children, his daughter Pamela Crane (Dr. James Crane) of Kirkwood, Missouri and his son Ronny Grosenheider (Carolyn Lyman) of Kampsville, Illinois. He also leaves behind three cherished grandchildren, James L. Crane (Victoria Spencer) of San Jose, California, Nancy M. Crane of Vail, Colorado and Amy Spotts (Ethan Spotts) of Evanston, Illinois as well as three great grandchildren, Kaitlyn and J.T. Crane of Scottsdale, Arizona and Levi Spotts of Evanston, Illinois.

PawPaw will be dearly missed by his family and friends. As we celebrate his life, he deserves a final salute and our gratitude for his service on behalf of our nation.

Those wishing to pay their respects may attend a visitation from 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 25, 2020 at Faith Lutheran Church in Godfrey, Illinois which will be immediately followed by a church memorial service at 10:30 a.m. This will be followed by a short graveside service at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto, Illinois with full military honors by the VFW Post 1308. In lieu of flowers, tributes in honor of Mr. Grosenheider's life may be made to Faith Lutheran Church (care of Gent Funeral Home) or to the charity of your choice. Gent Funeral Home in Alton is in charge of arrangement. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Rose Lawn Memory Gardens

10 Erwin Plegge Blvd.
Bethalto, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 25. 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Faith Lutheran Church
6809 Godfrey Road
Godfrey, IL 62035

Funeral

JAN 25. 10:30 AM (CT)

Faith Lutheran Church
6809 Godfrey Road
Godfrey, IL 62035

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerald L. Grosenheider*

January 28, 2023 at 10:19 AM



“ *Gerald L. Grosenheider*

January 28, 2023 at 08:19 AM



“ *Gerry was my baseball coach along with his co worker Bill Jarrett , Gerry picked me up at home for all my practice and games and always had words of wisdom to share and I listened attentively because he was so sensible and had my utmost respect... I have always thought of him often and will continue to do so . Sorry I can't be there as I'm out of town but my heart is with Ron and Pam ...Dave Wickenhauser*

Dave Wickenhauser - January 21, 2020 at 07:13 PM



*I am so sorry to hear about your dad's passing. Your dad had taken my husband under his wing and hired him As a salary employee. My husband, Gerry Garvey, admired your dad. We enjoyed your parents as friends and loved listening to your dad's stories. I think of him every winter for he had shared with me that when it was nearing winter that he could predict what kind of winter we were going to have by the gray squirrel. If they were light in color it would be a mild winter. If the gray squirrel was dark in color (very very dark) it was going to be a bad winter with lots of snow. Well, he has been right with his predictions for the last 30 years. Again, I am so sorry for your loss and know your dad will be missed.
Cindy Kodros Garvey*

Cindy Kodros Garvey - January 21, 2020 at 10:03 PM