



Gerhard O. "Gary" Olsen

JUN 4, 1919 - JAN 8, 2010



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Gerhard O. "Gary" Olsen

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Mr. Gerhard O. "Gary" Olsen, age 90, died Friday evening, January 8, 2010, in Muskegon. He was born June 4, 1919 in Holton, MI to his Norwegian parents, Ole and Gina (Glosli) Olsen. By the age of thirteen both of Gerhard's parents had passed away. It was then that his cousin Clara Andersen and her husband Andrew took him in as one of their own. Gary graduated from Muskegon High School; and had served in the U.S. Army Air Corps during WWII. In 1946, he and his partner, George Bohland, started Northern Machine Tool Co, where he worked until a few years ago. Gary had been an active member of Crestwood United Methodist Church where he served on various committees over the years. He was also a member of the Norton Shores Kiwanis and of the National Tool & Die Association. Gerhard had a life long love of skiing and golf. On June 21, 1947 he married the former Doris E. Garber and she preceded him in death just a few months ago, on September 15, 2009. He was also preceded in death by his sister, Doris Schouten. SURVIVORS include his three children, Sandra Godzman of Evergreen, CO, Stephen (Debbie) Olsen of North Muskegon and Daniel (Kendra) Olsen of Norton Shores; 6 grandchildren, Andrea (Jon) Weeks, Eric (Bethany) Godzman, Sara (Steve) Henry, Matthew Olsen, Emily Olsen and Kenny Olsen; and by 5 great-grandchildren. Gerhard's family would like to sincerely thank the staff at both Seminole Shores and Sanctuary at the Park for the wonderful care they provided their father, grandfather and friend over the past two years. SERVICES will be 11AM Wednesday, January 13, 2010 at The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral Homes, Inc., 6291 S. Harvey Street, Norton Shores, MI 49444 (231-798-1100) with Pastor Jayne Yonkman, Chaplain of Sanctuary at the Park, officiating. Burial will be in Restlawn Cemetery. VISITATION with Gerhard's family will be 2-4 & 6-8 PM Tuesday. For a more lasting memorial, you are asked to consider the Muskegon – Oceana Chapter of the American Red Cross or the Community Foundation Muskegon County.



Events


Gerhard O. "Gary" Olsen

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Visitation

 **Tuesday**, January 12, 2010

 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**


6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



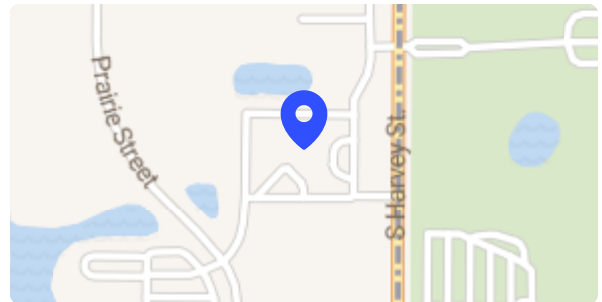
Visitation

 **Tuesday**, January 12, 2010

 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444





Tribute Wall

Gerhard O. "Gary" Olsen

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Anonymous posted:

I remember Mr. Olsen when he came every Christmas to my Dad's company --- Campbell Grinder Company and would bring the company a huge jar of cashews. He and my Dad(Hugh)would always have an enjoyable conversation at that time. "Ole"(my dad called him by that name) was always so pleasant and kind and I will never forget his hug smile. What a guy!! I'm sure his family will miss him terribly. Maybe he and my dad are catching up on the latest in machine tools.
:))##imported-begin##Bonnie Campbell Jensen##imported-end##

January 15 at 9:57 AM



Anonymous posted:

From stacking wood with my Grandpa O over Thanksgiving in Colorado to visiting him for Christmas and in the summers, I truly will and have missed the awesome days spent with my Grandpa O. For a person with as much loss that he had in his youth (losing his parents), my grandpa should be remembered for his positive view of life no matter what you are dealt. And, because of his beautiful heart and trust in the Lord, I feel that God allowed him to experience abundant life when he was on earth. He is now with the Most High for eternity...probably either dancing, skiing or golfing!!!!##imported-begin##Eric Godsman##imported-end##

January 15 at 6:38 AM



Anonymous posted:

Ginny and I appreciate the many times that Gary and Mrs. Olsen took Ginny's Mom (Eva Jensen) to church in her later years. They were very kind people and will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##Phil and Ginny Lavender##imported-end##

January 14 at 8:38 PM



Anonymous posted:

We will all miss him,he was a good man,with a large heart for all##imported-begin##Steven Watt##imported-end##

January 13 at 6:01 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

Mr. Olsen was certainly a "special" person. I feel so privileged to have been associated with him, his family and his company. He was so loved by his family and friends and was so respected in the business world. I share deeply with his family and friends in the loss of Mr. Olsen.##imported-begin##Betty Medema##imported-end##

January 13 at 5:13 AM



Anonymous posted:

Strong families make great community citizens. This family is an example of this statement. Many persons talk of 'family values', Gary exemplified them. He will be missed by many persons including his children who have also demonstrated 'family values' and community leadership traits. Our community is a stronger place because of persons like Mr. Gary Olson.##imported-begin##Larry & Jane Wright##imported-end##

January 12 at 12:27 PM



Anonymous posted:

We offer our deepest sympathies toward the passing of "Gary", who was one of the first friends since I moved to Muskegon in 1955. It was a long and sincere friendship that was developed over the years. It brings back many fond memories, especially of many, many lunches together and in business associations. His devotion to Doris and his family was always commendable. We offer our most sincere sympathy and prayers.##imported-begin##Chuck and Olga Hennesen##imported-end##

January 12 at 12:13 PM



Anonymous posted:

With wonderful memories of a man who always had a smile when he approached me. May the legacy of Northern Machine Tool live on. from all of us at "Johnson Tool, Inc."##imported-begin##Phillip R. "Dick" Johnson##imported-end##

January 12 at 10:34 AM



Tribute Wall

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Anonymous posted:

I have so many sweet memories of my childhood next door neighbor, Mr. Olson... When grandchildren Andrea and Eric visited, the Olsen house was host to hours of crafting miniature dream houses, barbecues, early morning pancake breakfasts under the magnolia tree, performances of the Little Match Girl in the laundry room and New Year's Eves celebrated with sparkling apple juice. Thank you for each neighborly smile and wave hello and your abundant kindness and generosity. You will be missed. Sara##imported-begin##Sara Spencer##imported-end##

January 12 at 8:09 AM



Anonymous posted:

A great neighbor and friend. Enjoyed skiing so much with the family. Very fond memories.Paul, Dot, Ann, \$ Dan##imported-begin##Mr. & Mrs, Paul R. Gilbert##imported-end##

January 12 at 6:09 AM



Anonymous posted:

Gary was and will always be one of the best men I ever knew. A true "gentle man". His generosity was unsurpassed.The world is a lesser place at his passing. He will be missed.Our prayers will be "Peace for his family".God Bless You all.David Erickson and family.##imported-begin##David Erickson##imported-end##

January 12 at 4:45 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gerhard O. "Gary" by
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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