



Mr. Eugene "Gene" Wernstrom

JAN 28, 1930 - SEP 13, 2017



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Eugene (Gene) Wernstrom, age 87, went to be with his Lord and Savior on September 13, 2017. Gene was a member of Fifth Reformed Church for many years, coming from First Reformed Church where he was very active, especially in coaching their baseball team. He was born in Muskegon, MI on January 28, 1930 to Walter and Beatrice (Baker) Wernstrom and married Ruth VanderKooi on September 26, 1958. They enjoyed 59 years together and raised two boys, Mike (Sandy) Wernstrom of Twin Lake and Tom (Kim) Wernstrom of Roosevelt Park. Gene was blessed with three grandsons, Eric, Connor and Nolan and one granddaughter, Allison. Gene was employed for 45 years at American Coil Spring, retiring in 1994. He served his country with the 45th Infantry in Korea with an 81-mortar squad, as a leader and instructor. He was very proud of his service to his country. Gene was an avid hunter, especially for deer. He also enjoyed playing cards and shuffleboard. Gene was preceded in death by his parents and step-father, Gordon Doud, as well as his sister, Marilyn Wernstrom. He is also survived by his wife, Ruth, brother, Don (Pam) Wernstrom of Montague and many nieces, nephews and cousins. The family would like to express a special thank you to Dr. Kevin Kiley for heartfelt compassion. He diligently provided care for Gene for many years. The family will celebrate Gene's life and service with a private graveside ceremony. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Fifth Reformed Church Youth Group of Muskegon. You may visit the family's online guestbook at www.sytsemafh.com. Arrangements by The Sytsema Chapel, 737 Apple Ave., (231) 726-5210.



Tribute Wall

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SS

Shirley Sobotta lit a candle in honor of Eugene.

Dear Ruth and Gene's little brother Don, Paul and I were saddened to hear of Cousin Gene's passing. We know that he had been ill for a long time. Marilyn had told me how wonderful and caring Ruth was over the several years of Gene's illness. Whether you know this or not, I wish to share with you my wonderful evening that Gene and I spent together....for he took me to my Senior Prom. My husband, John Sobotta, was serving in the Army in Germany and I wanted to go to my Senior prom so I asked him if he would escort me and he said "sure". We shared the evening with Marilyn and her boy friend. Gene was a good dancer! I will always miss his kind and gentle nature and his beautiful smile!. Love, Cousin Shirley Sobotta



September 19 at 4:57 PM

MS

Marilyn Slater posted:

Sorry to hear of Gene's passing. Our thoughts and prayers to his family. Dale & Marilyn Slater

September 17 at 9:59 AM

JG

J. Goforth lit a candle in honor of Eugene.



September 15 at 5:27 PM

AC

Amy Cribbins posted:

Thinking of you and sending prayers for peace and comfort during this time of sorrow.

September 15 at 12:09 PM

JM

Jeanne Maycroft posted:

I have know Ruthie and Gene's sister, Marilyn, since Angell School Kindergarten. I am so sorry to learn about Gene. Ron and I will be holding you in our thoughts and prayers while you go through this difficult time. With Love, Jeanne & Ron Maycroft

September 15 at 10:39 AM



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Jeanne Maycroft posted:

On behalf of MHS Class of 1955, we wish to extend our deepest condolences to Ruthie and her family. We are so sorry to hear about the loss of your husband. Our Love goes out to you. Jeanne Nelson-Maycroft

September 15 at 10:34 AM



Julie Dratz posted:

Dear Ruth and family, Our visits with Gene were special. We loved to hear of his hunting episodes especially. He was such a kind man and had a ready, easy smile. We definitely will miss not seeing him ride "around the block" on his scooter with his dog in the basket. When we would stop along side him...he would yell, "you wanna race?" Please accept our deepest sympathy. Much love, Paul and Julie Dratz

September 14 at 6:02 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Eugene by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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