



# Gerald "Jerry" J. Lafferty Jr.

AUG 4, 1933 - FEB 16, 2025



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# Gerald "Jerry" J. Lafferty Jr.

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**G**erald J. "Jerry" Lafferty, Jr., age 91, passed away Sunday, February 16, 2025 in Grand Rapids. He was born on August 4, 1933 in Muskegon to Gerald J. and Amelia (Witt) Lafferty, Sr. Jerry served his country in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He began his working career at Continental Motors, and then ended his career as an engineer / draftsman at Dura Automotive for many years before he retired in 1998.

Jerry was a passionate and award-winning darkroom photographer who dedicated his life to capturing the beauty of nature through his lens. His keen eye and artistic vision brought landscapes to life, earning him admiration among fellow photographers. He was a proud member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA), the Muskegon Camera Club, where he found camaraderie and shared his love for the arts. He also belonged to the Irish American Club of Muskegon.

On January 15, 1955, Jerry married the former, Margaret R. "Peggy" Gearin, in Worcester, MA. For 56 wonderful years, they built a life together, supporting each other's passions and embracing every adventure. Peggy preceded him in death on July 20, 2011.

**SURVIVORS** include four children: Diane (Michael) Wright, Gerald Lafferty III, Donna (Eric) Thompson, and Michael Lafferty; five grandchildren: Michael (Tara) Wright, Jr., David Wright, Megan (CJ) Thompson, Matt (Kayla) Thompson and Sean Thompson; eight great grandchildren: Emma, Caitlyn, Steven, Dexter, Sophia, Addison, Brooks, and Grayson; his brother, James "Jim" Lafferty; along with several nieces and nephews. Jerry was also preceded in death by his sister-in-law, Peggy Lafferty.

A VISITATION for Jerry will be Thursday, February 20, 2025 from 5:00 – 8:00 PM at The Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services, 6291 S. Harvey St. Norton Shores, MI 49444 (231-798-1100).



## Obituary

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A private family burial will take place in St. Mary's Cemetery in Muskegon, MI. Memorial Contributions in Jerry's name to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital will be appreciated.

Share memories with the family online at [www.sytsemafh.com](http://www.sytsemafh.com).




# Events

**Gerald "Jerry" J. Lafferty Jr.**

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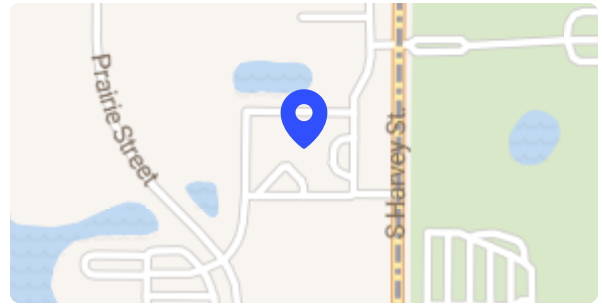
## Visitation

 **Thursday**, February 20, 2025


 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM ET

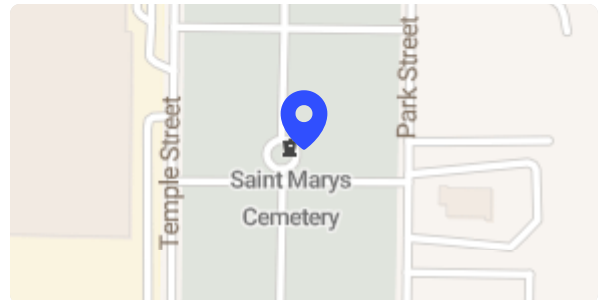
 **Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services - The Lee Chapel**

6291 Harvey St., Norton Shores MI 49444



## Cemetery Details

 **St. Mary's Cemetery**  
1915 Park St., Muskegon MI 49441





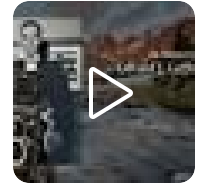
# Tribute Wall

**Gerald "Jerry" J. Lafferty Jr.**

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**Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services** shared a **Video**.



February 20 at 5:38 PM



**Kathy Debolt** lit a candle in honor of Gerald "Jerry".



In recent years, I was fortunate enough to be around when Uncle Jerry and my Dad, Jim, would have their weekly Saturday phone call. They would use this time to send their love to each other and to catch up on what was happening with their families. Sometimes I was lucky enough to talk to Uncle Jerry- he was ALWAYS so kind and the sound of his voice was one of a man who was truly happy with his life and loved his family very, very much. You can sure see his joy in the family photos! Rest in peace Uncle Jerry.

March 2 at 10:29 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sweet Sincerity to the Lafferty family.



February 19 at 5:44 PM



**Judi Delis** posted:

Thank you for sharing your talents with the residents at Seminole Shores! I will miss our accidental meetings and hugs. You and Peggy were so gracious in sharing your talents. You will be missed.

February 18 at 11:57 AM



**Judi Delis** posted:

Gerry thank you for sharing your talent as a photographer with the residents at Seminole Shires. ! Will miss our accidental meetings and hugs! Peggy shared her talent as a painter and you were so proud of her. Rest inPeace!

February 18 at 11:55 AM



# Media

**Gerald "Jerry" J. Lafferty Jr.**

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Sytsema Funeral & Cremation Services shared a Video.

February 20 at 5:38 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Gerald "Jerry" by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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