Becker-Milnes Funeral Services & Rettig Funeral Home

Four locations in Iowa: Sumner, Fayette, Hawkeye & Tripoli

Gerald E. "Gary" Heller

Gerald “Gary” Heller, 69, of rural Sumner, died Saturday, October 17, 2015, at his home near Sumner.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, October 21, 2015, at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Sumner with Rev. George Volkert officiating. Burial will follow at St. John Lutheran Cemetery in Sumner with military rites conducted by Thomas E. Woods Post #223, American Legion of Sumner.

Friends may call from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 20th at Becker-Milnes Funeral Home in Sumner and for one hour preceding services at the church on Wednesday.

Gerald Eugene, son of Martin and Eldora (Degelau) Heller, was born August 10, 1946, at Sumner, Iowa. He was baptized September 8, 1946, and confirmed April 10, 1960, at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Sumner. He received his education in the Sumner Schools, graduating from Sumner High School in 1966. On June 8, 1966, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He served in Vietnam where he was awarded two purple hearts before being honorably discharged on April 1, 1969. On September 20, 1969, he was united in marriage with Patricia Miller in Waterloo. Gary worked as a mail carrier in Sumner for thirty years prior to retiring in 2002. He was a lifelong member of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Sumner. He was a member of Thomas E. Woods Post #223, American Legion of Sumner, the Marine Corps Association, and was a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans. He enjoyed reading, gardening, the Minnesota Viking and Twins, traveling, spending time at the family pond, and most especially, time spent with his grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, Pat of Sumner, he is survived by two children, Stacie (Terry) Boess of Hawkeye and Gerald F. (Tanya) Heller of Lakeville, Minnesota; five grandchildren, Tyler, Brooke, and Brody Boess, and Jaylen and Brandie Heller; a brother, Ron Heller of Hawkeye; his mother-in-law, Rachel Kirchhoff of Sumner; three sisters-in-law, Carol Heller of Readlyn, Marlys Heller of Sumner, and Tammy (Mike) Loftus of Waterloo; four brothers-in-law, Don Snyder of Alpha, Bill Lehmkuhl of Sumner, Gary (Kathy) Miller of Tracy, California, and Mike (Lynda) Miller of Sumner; and many nieces and nephews.

Gary was preceded in death by a son, Jason in 1978; his parents; two brothers, Martin and Fred; and three sisters, Lavonne Harmening, Joan Snyder, and Verla Lehmkuhl.

Add Comment

Anonymous on **October 21, 2015** at 11:57 AM said:

Prayers for his family. Sorry to hear of his passing.

Bob Volker on **October 20, 2015** at 7:36 PM said:

Our sympathy is with you. Many fond memories of time spent together.Our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your family.

Wanda Conway on **October 20, 2015** at 2:54 PM said:

So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. He was a wonderful, kind man. My prayers are with you all.

Deb curtis on **October 20, 2015** at 5:39 AM said:

So sorry pat Gary was a very nice person my mail carrier for many years.

Kathy and Syl Mutschler on **October 19, 2015** at 8:14 PM said:

As a classmate of Gary's we want to add our condolences to the family. We appreciate his service to his country. You are on our prayers.

Jean (Rochford) Kacick on **October 19, 2015** at 7:56 PM said:

Our sincere condolences for your loss. I've heard wonderful testimonies about Gary's many kindnesses from fellow classmates. May he rest with all the angels and saints in heaven in the peace Our Lord's presence forever.

Wanda Burows on **October 19, 2015** at 7:18 PM said:

So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. I remember him as a very kind and gentle man. Keep him always in your heart !

Dolores Baker on **October 19, 2015** at 9:36 AM said:

I am very sorry for your loss. Jesus said; "Do not be amazed at this, for the hour is coming in which all those in the memorial tombs will hear his voice and come out,..."(John 5:28-29) May his promise comfort you and bring you peace during this difficult time.

Dan and Karen Mulawski on **October 18, 2015** at 5:45 PM said:

Dear Pat and Family, We are so sorry to hear of Gary's passing. He was such a supporter and friend to our Dad. We know how much he cared for the pond. He will be missed.

Add Comment

Find us on Facebook

We welcome your comments and feedback about our website!
Click here to send us your comments

© 2008-2018 Becker-Milnes Rettig. **Site designed and hosted by *Web Design by Duhrkopf***