



Gerald "Gary" David Howard

October 14, 2010

Howard, Gerald "Gary" David, died peacefully, Thursday October 14, 2010, with friends and family at his side. He is survived by his wife of 39 years, JoAnn Howard, his three sons Christopher David Howard and wife Gen Howard, James Bradley Howard, and Robbie Joseph Howard, two grandchildren Chloe Ann Howard and Gavin Howard, and his brother William Howard (Judi) and sister Glenda Cooley (Mike) . Gary was born in 1947 in Portsmouth, Ohio to Ivory and Ann Howard. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War serving with the U.S. Army. He came home in 1969 and moved to Louisville, Ky becoming a Louisville City Police Officer. He married his wife JoAnn in 1971, and from there built his family. He always considered his in-laws as his own, Sammy and Cheri Terry, Michael and Robin Terry, Gary Jolly, Dottie and Bill Simmons, and Rosalyn and James Terry. Gary served with the Police Force for thirty years becoming the head of the narcotics division and later Lt. Colonel for the final nine years of his career. He made many good friends during this time, including an adopted mother Gloria Sunshine Taylor. Gary went on to work with the Department of Criminal Justice Training and the U.S. Attorney's Office. He was admired by those he worked with for his honesty and his ability to make the workplace a brighter place. Gary enjoyed working on his farm in Meade County, Kentucky, going almost every weekend to take care of his place. He was an avid Louisville sports fan and enjoyed watching the games with his sons. He always enjoyed spending time with his two grandchildren. Gary was known most of all for his abounding sense of

humor that never failed. We will miss his lively stories that always brought a laugh. We will not forget them. And we will miss his guidance, which always seemed to nudge us in the right direction. Gary was diagnosed with Kidney Cancer in July of 2008. He battled the disease relentlessly, with the spirit and bravery he faced all obstacles in his life. His best friend Doug Hamilton was there with us and him from beginning until end and we all thank him. Gary was a man of decency and wisdom. He loved and was loved by his family very much. All who knew him are better for it. We will miss him greatly and know he will be watching over us, telling a few jokes while he is at it. Funeral service will be 12pm Monday at Owen Funeral Home, 5317 Dixie Highway with burial in Resthaven Cemetery. Visitation will be Sunday 12-8 at the funeral home. Expressions of sympathy can be made to the American Cancer Society.

Tribute Wall

CR

“ I am sorry to learn about Gary, his illness, and death. I haven't seen him in many years, but I had the opportunity to get to know him through his job as a law officer. He was always professional, upbeat, and cared about the community he served. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and those who worked with him.

Craig - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM

PO

“ My sincerest condolences to the Howard Family! I was proud to be Garys "Buddy" and fellow Viet Nam Veteran. I am in Hawaii as of this note and hope the Howard family gets to see my note. I was lucky enough to have reunited with Gary in Louisville after some 30 years since our Viet Nam service. He was one wonderful person!\

Patrick O'Donnell

Patrick ODonnell - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM

JM

“ JoAnn,
Words cannot express my deepest sorrow in your loss of Gary. I had no idea that these last two years had been such a struggle for him until I ran into Cindy Shain this past Thursday afternoon (10/14). She told me that he had been in the hospital and was at a nursing home with you and the family keeping vigil. That evening I received the news that he passed away.
It was an honor and a privilege to work with Gary, both when we were patrolmen and then later on as we both became staff officers. He had such a great sense of humor and I can't tell you how many times we sat in his office and laughed until we almost cried.
Gary had an amazing ability to relate to everyone, regardless of rank or position, and always made everyone feel at ease.
In each of our lifetimes we come in contact with many people. Some stay for awhile and move on but leave a lasting impression on our character. Gary was one of those people in my lifetime.
Our prayers are with you and your family during this most difficult time. May God grant you the peace and comfort you need.
John Mills

John Mills - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM

MP

“ Gary was a great person as I knew him when he was just a lost boy and hung around with my parents. He was 9 years older than me. He babysat, tormented me and was my hero each and everyday!... I remember when he left for the service. I was so sad that he was going so far away. He would write Mom and Dad faithfully. Oh...but, when he would write me was the best! I loved Gary so much and he had a big heart then. He was a blessing to so many people. I am sure that he will be in heaven with Mom and Dad and they will pick up where they left off. God bless You and your family Joann.
Prayers,
Marsha

Marsha Kay (James) Pulliam - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM

LS

“ I want to offer my condolences to Gary's family and friends. His dad and my dad were very close as brothers and I wish I could have known Gary better. I hoped to have a chance to visit with him a few years ago when he thought he might come to Lucasville for Memorial Day. That didn't happen, but I hope some day to meet his family. Please know you are invited to my home any time. I know he leaves behind a rich legacy. May he rest in peace.

Linda Howard Scott - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM

HC

“ JoAnn and family,
We were saddened to hear of Gary's passing and I know there are no words to properly express our deep sympathy. May you find some measure of comfort and peace in knowing that others share your grief.

Helen Clark - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM

ST

“ JoAnn and family,

I am so saddened by the passing of Gary. I enjoyed working with Gary for time that I was in the office.

He was a great listener and friend and he will be missed. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.

Sandy

Sandy Talley - June 28, 2018 at 04:15 PM