



Dr. Gale Gleason, Jr.

October 8, 1927 - June 12, 2017

Dr. Gale Robert Gleason Jr. of Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan died peacefully at home the morning of June 12, 2017.

Born in October of 1927 in Battle Creek, MI to Gale Sr. and Opal Gleason, he moved with his family to Traverse City at a young age.

He served in the Navy during WWII returning to Traverse City to graduate from Traverse City Central H.S. in 1946, where he met his future wife, Shirley Pratt. He earned his B.S. from Central Michigan College and his MS and PhD from Michigan State University. He taught in the Biology Department at Central before moving the family north in 1965 to Sault Ste. Marie, to take over as Chairman of the Biology and Chemistry Department in what was then the Soo Branch of Michigan Tech.

Gale was an Eagle Scout and former member of Rotary, Toastmaster and a member of various international organizations in the support Great Lakes Sports Fisheries. Gale was the 1st Chairman and a Board Member of the I-500. He was the co-founder of the LSSU Aquatic Research Lab. Gale retired from LSSU in 1986. After retirement Gale and his wife Shirley enjoyed their winters in Florida.

Gale is survived by his wife Shirley of 68 years, one son Kendall (Linda Vert) Gleason of Allen TX, three daughters Cynthia (Gene) Motuzas of Portage, MI,

Susan (Rick) Hancock of Derry, NH, Laura (Dale) Izzard of Milledgeville, GA.
Eleven grandchildren, three great-grandsons and two great-granddaughters.

Preceded in death by his parents, one sister Barbara and three brothers,
Jack, Jerry and Gilbert.

A family gathering will be held at the graveside in Traverse City at a later date.

In lieu of flowers Memorial donations can be made to LSSU Aquatic
Research Lab <http://foundation.lssu.edu/give> Select "Other Designation" and
under "Additional Instructions" enter "Gale Gleason Memorial Fund".

Tribute Wall

CS

“ Now, during teacher appreciation week I think of Dr. Gleason and his influence over me as a young man. Hard for me to overstate his impactful influence. I love the guy! A real mans man , great teacher and even better human being . As a matter of fact, his whole family is extraordinary!! Wife Shirley, brother Gil and his children are/were wonderful. A "tip of the hat" to Dr. Gale Gleason my choice for best teacher ever!!
Cory Somes
corysomes@gmail.com
770-853-5911



Cory Somes - May 03, 2021 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ Gale allowed me to join his department at LSSC in Sault Ste Marie in 1965... and I have never had such a wonderful time...because he and his brother Gil...were the most positive persons one could encounter. Those two years from 65-67...were perhaps the best years of my life...and Gale made that largely possible. --When Gale was in---the room was always brighter...so that tells one a bit about a person's spirit...Gale had that bright spirit...and that was good.

Earl Weidner - October 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MD

“ So sorry to here, he was one of my great professors and an aquantience of my father-in-law, Bud Davis.

Maureen Davis - June 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ So sorry for you loss, we'll keep you in our thoughts & prayers

Cowboy and Barbara Henderson - June 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ Dear Shirley and Family, we extend our sincere sympathy to each of you in the loss of a wonderful Husband, Father and Grandfather. Gail has left behind an amazing Legacy. Know you have many memories to relive and cherish. Keep those memories close to your heart! We will miss Gail ..Gerry will definitely find a huge void in the winter months not going a across the street to chat.

Gerry and Maureen Charette - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ My condolences to all the Gleason family from the Arce Family in Plano, Tx. Thoughts and Prayers are with you and your family.

Manuel Arce - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Kendall and the Gleason Family, I wanted to let you know that you are in our thoughts and prays, as you mourn the loss of your Father. I am sure I speak for all your work family that we are here for you in whatever you or your family needs. I did not know your father, but a Son is a direct reflection of their father so I know he was a great man. My Sincere Condolences, Michael Bartlett

Michael Bartlett - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM

LR

“ I am very sorry for your loss Kendall.

Lars-Eric Rangedahl - June 14, 2017 at 12:00 AM