



Gerald Edward Morningstar

June 28, 1950 - April 3, 2020

Gerald Edward “Jerry” Morningstar, age 69, of Fort Myers, Florida, formerly of the Eastern Upper Peninsula of Michigan, died April 3, 2020, in Florida. He was born June 28, 1950, in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan, to Boyd and Aline (DeWitt) Morningstar.

Jerry grew up in Strongs, Michigan, one of seven children and graduated from Brimley Schools. At the age of 18, Jerry enlisted with the Marines and was a Viet Nam veteran. For most of his adult life, Jerry was employed by UPS, retiring in 2007.

Jerry was well loved by his wife, children, and grandchildren and left them with wonderful memories of his unwavering love and a large hole in their lives. When he married Brenda, her family gained a loving father and a devoted grandfather that has made a lasting impact on their lives. He was happiest when he could help others. Later in life, Jerry taught himself to play guitar and loved playing and singing. Nobody was ever considered a stranger to Jerry as he made friends wherever he went. Jerry and Brenda enjoyed travelling and most recently enjoyed a circle tour in Europe, visiting seven countries. While living in the Upper Peninsula, Jerry enjoyed hunting. While living in Florida, Jerry loved boating and fishing with family and friends.

While living in the Upper Peninsula, Brenda and Jerry attended Stalwart

Presbyterian Church. After moving to Florida and residing most recently in Ft Myers, they attended New Hope Presbyterian Church.

Jerry was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2012 and remained active and involved through the years. During his last week of life, Jerry was lovingly cared for in Hope Hospice in Ft. Myers with his wife and children by his side.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Brenda (Sims) Morningstar, whom he married April 15, 1995; children, Casey (Lauren) Morningstar of St. Ignace, Michigan, Jaci (Gary) Mortinsen of Pickford, Michigan, and Kara (Phil) Jimenez of St. Charles, Michigan; grandchildren, Chance Morningstar, Caitlin and Zack Mortinsen, and Gabby, Antonio, and Hope Jimenez; siblings, Sandy (Al) McLain of Cedarville, Michigan, Debra (Ken) Brabant of Newberry, Michigan, and John Morningstar of Strongsville, Ohio.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents; granddaughter, Makena Elizabeth; brothers, Thomas Morningstar and Don Morningstar; and infant sister, Linda Morningstar.

A memorial service will be held outdoors at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens on Saturday, July 18, 2020, at 1:00 PM.

His final resting place will be at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens in Bruce Township, Michigan.

Memorials can be made to the Michael J Fox Foundation (michaeljfox.org) which funds research programs to end Parkinson's Disease or SHSS Pennington Home Hospice, 1501 W. 6th Ave, Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783.

R. Galer Funeral Home in Pickford, Michigan is serving the family. Condolences may be sent to the family at www.rgalerfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Oaklawn Chapel Gardens

Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUL 18. 1:00 PM (ET)

Oaklawn Chapel Gardens
15264 S. M-129
Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerald Edward Morningstar*

October 05, 2023 at 09:54 AM



“ *Gerald Edward Morningstar*

October 02, 2023 at 10:14 PM



“ *Gerald Edward Morningstar*

September 01, 2022 at 07:49 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Gerald Edward Morningstar.*



April 20, 2020 at 02:29 PM

TS

“ Jerry was a caring and sharing neighbor and friend. He took a special interest in our neighbor, Lawrence Grimes, during his last years and was always willing to lend a hand to anyone. His smile and his eagerness to help will be missed by everyone who knew him. Our deepest sympathies go out to his family for a loss that took Jerry from us too soon. Rest in peace, our good friend.
Tom and Celeste Spencer

Tom Spencer - April 20, 2020 at 01:06 PM

BR

“ Barbara R. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Gerald Edward Morningstar.



Barbara R. - April 17, 2020 at 03:04 PM

BC

“ He always had a big smile his face every time I saw him. He was welcoming and very kind every time. I always enjoyed the time I spent with him. He will be missed. I am so sorry.

Brenda Cain - April 14, 2020 at 06:35 PM

JH

“ Your dad holds a special place in my heart. I remember meeting him at the Sportzone in Freeland. He wanted to help me put together an exercise class for People with Parkinsons Disease and he gave me my first book on PD (his name is still in it) Because of our time together, I became a PT Specializing in PD. His kind heart, his work ethic and his love for helping others has left a huge stamp on my heart. Even while in Florida, he and Brenda would send pictures of them pole walking and exercising. I only have smiles and laughter when I picture our interactions. Heaven has gained an angel. I hope you all find peace in knowing how many hearts he touched while on this earth.

Jamie Haines - April 12, 2020 at 06:57 AM

BH

“ Condolences for your loss. It must be even harder during these difficult times and I am sorry that you are facing that too. He has a very kind smile, which says a lot about a person. Signed, Bill Hazel

Bill Hazel - April 11, 2020 at 09:49 PM

NS

“ I remember Jerry, such a nice man. He was our very handsome UPS man. He will be missed by his family and friends.

Nancy Skidmore

Nancy Skidmore - April 11, 2020 at 05:50 PM

KR

“ So sorry for your loss

Krista - April 10, 2020 at 07:36 PM

CH

“ So sorry to hear of Jerry's passing, he was such a great guy, and loved by everyone that knew him. My prayers go out to all of you. GOD BLESS. Charlie

charottemorningstar - April 10, 2020 at 08:32 AM

GM

“ SO SAD TO HEAR OF GERRY'S PASSING. HE WAS A GREAT FRIEND AN CO-WORKER.HE WAS ALWAYS READY TO HELP AND A GREAT FRIEND TO HAVE. MY DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO HIS FAMILY.

GARY MCDONALD - April 09, 2020 at 02:49 PM

LM

“ So very sorry to hear of Jerry's death. As first cousins, we grew up being wild kids -- playing in the river, endless games of hide and seek, sledding, picking berries,running all over. Also ate many meals at Aunt Aline and Uncle Boyd's house. We lost touch after our parents all passed and I regret that. Please accept my most sincere sympathy.

Linda Dewitt Mikkelsen
Glyndon, MN

Linda Mikkelsen - April 08, 2020 at 03:34 PM