



## Gordon Gilray

May 26, 1931 - November 13, 2020

Gordon "Gordie" Russell Gilray age 89 passed away on Friday, November 13, 2020.

Gordie was born on May 26, 1931, in Fort William, Ontario, Canada, to the late Robert and Christina (Mercer) Gilray. His family immigrated to the United States in 1938, residing in Sault Ste. Marie MI. Gordie served his country with the Michigan Army National Guard, 1437th Engineer Company during the Korean Conflict, attaining the rank of Sergeant. While in the Army, he played hockey for the Fort Lewis Warriors. In 1956, Gordie moved his family to Mt. Pleasant, MI, and opened A & G Floor Covering in 1959, a business his sons took over when he retired and his love of the UP brought him back home to the Soo. Retirement didn't last long and Gordie soon pursued new business ventures, including real estate development, bar owner (The Horny Toad), and owner of JMC Self Storage.

Gordie served as president of the Civitan Club of Mt. Pleasant and was a member of the VFW Post #3676, the Elks Club #552, and the American Legion Post #3. He enjoyed boating, snowmobiling, and 4-wheeling, especially leading groups on the beautiful trails across the UP. He loved to spend time socializing, watching sports, and listening to music - Elvis, Johnny Cash, and Frank Sinatra being a few of his favorites. And he loved his family, who love him and will miss his kindness, his stories, his laugh, and his beautiful blue eyes and white hair. In 2014, Gordie's health was suddenly taken from him, but he was a fighter and beat the odds over and over until it

was the right time for him to leave this earth. He is our hero, our superman, and we are grateful for the time we had to grow even closer as a family. Gordie is survived by his brother John (Noel) Gilray of Sault Ste. Marie, MI; his five children: Christine (Robert) Nace of Fredericksburg, VA; Robert (Rene) Gilray of Mt. Pleasant, MI; Lori (Craig) Schumacher of Marquette, MI; Steven (Debbie) Gilray of Mt. Pleasant, MI; and Becky Gilray of Marblehead, MA. His eight grandchildren: Leanne (Scott) Fischer, Jeannette (Mike) Byrne, Ryan Gilray, Randy Gilray, Hilary (Bob) Elmore, Shane Egbert, Amy (Gordie Risbridger) Shindorf, and Brigid (Taylor Kirsch) Goggin; eight great-grandchildren; and all of his beloved nieces, nephews, and their families. Gordie was preceded in death by his parents, his wife: Delores Edith (McCartney-Pemberton) Gilray; his first wife: Ardith Ann (MacMillan-Gilray) MacLean; his brother Robert and sister Dorothy Young. Gordie's family wishes to express their heartfelt appreciation to Serenity Home Care, especially Char, Dana, Linda, and Rachel, for their attentive and loving care. To honor Gordie, the family encourages donations to be sent to the Hospice House of the Eastern Upper Peninsula, VFW, American Legion, or Elks Club. A graveside committal service with military honors will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 24, 2021, at Oaklawn Chapel Gardens.

# Tribute Wall

TK

“Gordy , What a nice guy , I built several Journey Motor Homes for Gordy and his wife, he was always s pleasure to work with, one of the best customers ever, I still have and cherish the custom made knife and sheath that Gordy gave me back in the 80's , We were lucky to have known him, Tuff Kidder

Tuff Kidder - June 14, 2021 at 12:00 AM

TM

“to chris,robby,steve,lori, becky. i knew your dad for a long time. we grew up together on garwood street so many year ago.I was fortunate to be able to do business with Gordy in later years and i enjoyed it.What a neat guy.there is a special place in heaven for him.sorry for your loss  
tim macgregor

TIMOTHY MACGREGOR - November 30, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LS

“Dad, you were my hero. You were the most courageous, knowledgeable and resourceful man I knew. I never had to question if you loved me. I saw it your eyes when we were together and I heard it in your voice when I called. I will feel you with me everyday and I will live life for the both of us now. My heart will always look for you but my soul knows you are at peace. Rest easy now my hero, my Dad. I love you, Lori



Lori Schumacher - November 28, 2020 at 12:00 AM

BR

“ So sorry to hear of Gordy's passing, he was my neighbor and friend. Thoughtful and kind! He loved taking his family and friends out on his Pontoon boat. I have many nice memories of him, he and family are in my thoughts and prayers 🙏. Gordy RIP

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**Bernice Rutecki** - November 24, 2020 at 12:00 AM