



Gary R. Jones

June 28, 1951 - February 11, 2017

Lerna, IL – Gary R. Jones, age 65, of Lerna, IL, passed away at his home on February 11, 2017.

A celebration of life in his honor will begin at 10:00 a.m., Friday, February 17, 2017, at the Fields Church, 900 DeWitt Avenue East, Mattoon, IL 61938. Pastor Travis Spencer and Pastor Ron Heitman will officiate. Interment will be in Rest Haven Memorial Gardens. Visitation will be held Thursday evening from 5:00-8:00 p.m., at Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home, 1200 Wabash Avenue, Mattoon, IL 61938. An additional service will be held at Evangel Church in Hanover Park, IL, at a later date.

Born June 28, 1951, in Mattoon, IL, Gary was the son of Walter L. and Martha M. Jones. He married Connie French on June 20, 1970. He is survived by Connie, his loving wife of 46 years; their children, Kendra Jones of Itasca, IL and Kari Jones of Lerna, IL; one sister, Cindy Williams (Jack); two brothers-in-law, Mike Weber (Sandy) of Mechanicsburg PA and Steve (Jan) French of Windsor, IL; nephews, Eric Williams (Erin), Scott Williams, Chad (Jillian) Weber, Chris (Dee) Weber, Jeffrey (Kelsey) Weber, and Douglas French; one niece, Heather Weber; as well as many other family members and friends. He will also be missed by Punkin, Boo, The Mother Hens, and his pet donkey, Jack.

Gary served our country with the United States Army from 1969-1972, and as a result, battled many health issues arising from exposure to Agent Orange. After spending more than 40 years in the automotive manufacturing industry,

Gary retired from his position of President of FIC America, in Carol Stream, IL, in 2016. He was known for his love of body-building, rock climbing, hiking, and repelling. He loved the outdoors and felt he was closest to God when surrounded by His Creation. He was passionate about his love of God, his family, and his friends.

Memorials in his honor may be made to the iHeart Veterans. Please visit www.mitchell-jerdan.com or www.facebook.com/mitchelljerdanfuneralhome to light a virtual candle in his honor or share a memory with his family.

Cemetery Details

Rest Haven Memorial Gardens

Mattoon, IL 61938

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **16**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home Ltd.
1200 Wabash Ave
Mattoon, IL 61938
(217) 234-8828
contact@mitchelljerdan.com
<https://www.mitchell-jerdan.com/>

Service

FEB **17**. 10:00 AM (CT)

The Fields Church
Mattoon, IL 61938

Tribute Wall



“ Gary R. Jones

October 08, 2023 at 07:40 PM



“ *I hate to see this. I was reminiscing, thought about Gary, googled his name and his obit popped up. We were stationed at Long Than North Vietnam in ASA together. I thought highly of Gary & frequently looked upon him as a younger brother. So sorry to hear that the Vietnam War claimed another casualty. As good a guy as Gary was he deserved to live till at least 90. My condolences to his family for losing him way to soon. I have cherished Gary's memory many times over the years and tried to find him, to no avail, a few times. A good soldier and an even better family man apparently. RIP Gary. I will hook up with you to reminisce when my time comes.*

Greg Anderson - April 21, 2020 at 11:25 AM

CS

“ I had the pleasure of working for Gary at FNA. When I initially got into the company, he was my boss's boss's boss, but you'd never guess that with the way he interacted with me and all the over employees at Futaba. He was always extremely kind and willing to give advice. I never felt a wall with Gary, in fact, quite the opposite. I felt like I could talk with him about pretty much anything, and it was apparent that Gary cared about each individual. He took the time to get to know me as a person, as he made it abundantly clear that he cared about how I was doing personally, not just professionally.

My first year at the company, there was not going to be a company holiday party due to budget constraints, but Gary cared so much about his employees that he took it upon himself (with his wonderful family's support) to host a unofficial company holiday party at his house. That generosity and caring nature had a major impact on me.

I learned a lot working with Gary, and although he taught me a lot about the specifics of the automotive industry and auditing, the lesson I will never forget is about how to be a good manager (and, really, a good person in general), and that that starts with staying humble and treating people with abundant love, care, and respect. I'll carry that lesson with me throughout my life, and will never forget Gary's impact on me. My deepest condolences for the loss of Gary. He will be truly missed.

-Collin Stecker

Collin Stecker - February 21, 2017 at 08:03 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary R. Jones.*



February 17, 2017 at 07:46 AM



“ *Myron Brown, Toyota purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Gary R. Jones.*



Myron Brown, Toyota - February 16, 2017 at 01:02 PM



“ *Gary was a true mentor to me. He was always positive, taught me a lot, and he always had time to talk when I needed advice. A great deal of who I am today is because of him. I will miss him, but I know I will see him again.*

Doug Deisher - February 16, 2017 at 05:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gary R. Jones.*



February 15, 2017 at 06:46 PM

RF

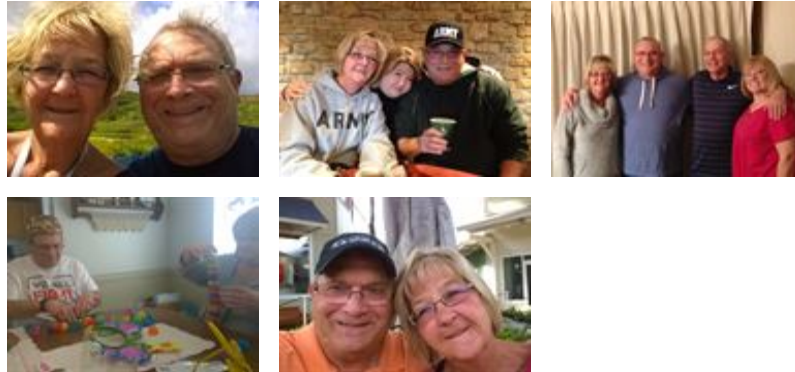
“ Rocky, Doris, Dennis, Debbie, Cheryl, and Families purchased the Crystal Cross Bouquet for the family of Gary R. Jones.



Rocky, Doris, Dennis, Debbie, Cheryl, and Families -
February 15, 2017 at 06:18 PM



“ 67 files added to the album Life Tributes



Mitchell-Jerdan Funeral Home - February 15, 2017 at 02:27 PM

KK

“ Katie Keller purchased the Sweet Tenderness for the family of Gary R. Jones.



Katie Keller - February 15, 2017 at 12:48 AM

KK

“ My first impression of Gary was actually an intimidating one! I came to FIC for my initial interview, phoned up from the entryway, and overheard him on the phone say, "She's late!" I thought, "Oh no...I'm already off to a bad start..." Little did I know, I would soon be heading upstairs to meet my new boss, my mentor of over 8 years, and one of my closest friends and confidants.

I can honestly say that Gary was the most influential person in my professional life, but he also touched me deeply as a true friend. I know I wouldn't be where I am today without him. He took me under his wing, trained me as an auditor and gave me the confidence to succeed in a fast-paced and challenging industry.

His character was beyond measure. He taught me much about life and that there's always a give and take. Gary was quick to forgive and even quicker to praise. I learned daily from his example of unyielding kindness and generosity, and I have been hard-pressed to find anyone as genuinely -good- as him.

Gary gave me my first job as a manager, and to this day whenever I need to make tough decisions, whether they be personnel-related or quality-related, I always ask myself, "What would Gary do?"

Gary, you will always be in my heart and mind, and I will never forget the impact you had (and continue to have) on my personal and professional life. I will miss you, but through the tears that brings, I know you are there watching over all of us as you have always done.

And to Connie, Kendra and Kari:

My deepest condolences for the loss of Gary. My thoughts and prayers are with you and the rest of your family. I love you all.



Katie Keller - February 14, 2017 at 11:32 PM

MF

“ Michael and Sandra Weber and Family purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Gary R. Jones.



Michael and Sandra Weber and Family - February 14, 2017 at 07:26 PM

MC

“ I had the pleasure of working with Gary for awhile, he was truly a good man who was quick with a smile. My deepest sympathy and condolences to the family.

michelle castellucio - February 14, 2017 at 04:21 PM

Kevin O'Brien

“ Kevin O'Brien purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Gary R. Jones.



Kevin O'Brien - February 14, 2017 at 02:01 PM

Kevin
O'Brien

“ Gary was certainly one of the most classy individuals that I have ever dealt with, both personally and professionally. His demeanor was always consistently positive and his outlook on life we would all be lucky to have. Gary will truly be missed.

Kevin and Monica O'Brien

Kevin O'Brien - February 14, 2017 at 12:51 PM

PF

“ I have so many wonderful memories of Gary that I could easily write a novel about this wonderful man. One that stands out the most is when Gary and I were hiking and rappelling in Shawnee National Forest. We had rappelled down into a canyon and after we both explored the canyon a bit, we realized that hiking out of there to get back to our campsite would take more time (and energy) than we had. To climb out meant climbing up a tree that had grown up against the canyon wall. But the tree didn't reach to the top of the cliff edge. It required a leap of faith so to speak that I was unable to overcome. So Gary went up the tree, and when he reached that same point, he jumped off the tree, grabbed hold of the cliff edge and muscled his way to the top. Then he dropped a rope for me to fasten to my harness and when I reached that point again, he pulled me to the top.



That's the way it always was with Gary. He was always there to support me. We worked together for nearly fifteen years and he was always there to support me in my work. I have no doubt that now, standing by the of our Lord, he stands at the ready to support me when needed.

All my love,
Paul Fedorchuk

Paul Fedorchuk - February 14, 2017 at 10:22 AM