



Gary Michael Peltzer

February 22, 1954 - March 21, 2026

Gary Michael Peltzer, 72, of Severn, Maryland, passed away peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, on March 21, 2026.

Born on February 22, 1954, in Baltimore, Maryland, Gary was the son of the late Edward Thomas Peltzer, Jr. and Colleen Sharkey Peltzer.

Gary was raised in Towson, Maryland, and spent 35 years in Severn, where he built a life centered around family, faith, and community with his beloved wife, Maureen. In recent years, he made his home on Maryland's Eastern Shore, a place he truly enjoyed. A devoted member of St. Bernadette Parish, Gary was well known and well loved—whether serving as an usher at the 9 a.m. Mass as part of “Ethel’s Angels” or proudly earning the affectionate nickname “beer man.”

Though often a man of few words, Gary had a way of becoming the life of the party. He was always ready with a joke—more often than not inappropriate, and always delivered with perfect timing. He could fix just about anything, took great pride in his skills at the grill, and was a loyal fan of the Baltimore Ravens.

At the center of Gary's life was his family. He found his greatest joy in watching his children grow—from cheering them on at sporting events to

seeing them become accomplished adults, and then welcoming their spouses into the family. Becoming “Pap” to his grandchildren was one of his proudest roles. He was known for encouraging a little mischief, often reminding everyone to relax and “let them be kids.”

Gary is survived by his loving wife of nearly 48 years, Maureen Shrift Peltzer; his children, Joan Skovron (Joe), Gretchen Rice (Jim), and Andrew Peltzer (Megan); and his five cherished grandchildren, Ryleigh, Nolan, Nora, Isla, and Talon. He is also survived by his brother, Dr. Edward Thomas Peltzer, III. (Beverly), and their children, Bryan Peltzer (Rochelle), Timothy Peltzer (Angie), and Will Peltzer, along with a large extended family of in-laws, nieces, and nephews who will miss him dearly.

In addition to his parents, Gary was predeceased by his parents-in-law, Robert and Christine Shrift; his nephew, Matthew Peltzer; his brother-in-law, Craig Martin; his sister-in-law, Dr. Kathryn Gallagher; and his uncle, Jack Sharkey.

A viewing will be held on Sunday, March 29, from 1–3 p.m. and 5–7 p.m. at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home, 408 South Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland. A funeral service will be held on Monday at 11 a.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Compass Regional Hospice in Centreville, Maryland, or Adkins Arboretum in Ridgely, Maryland.

Gary will be remembered for his quick wit, his generous heart, and his ability to make everyone laugh—often when they least expected it—and we can only imagine he’s already telling a joke or two and is surrounded by all of those who were waiting for him with open arms when he made it to Heaven. We hope there was a Nanticoke Nectar and crab cake waiting for you.

Previous Events

Viewing

MAR **29**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Centreville Location
408 South Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-1151
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Viewing

MAR **29**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Centreville Location
408 South Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-1151
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Funeral Service

MAR **30**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Centreville Location
408 South Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617
(410) 758-1151
info@fhfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Michael Peltzer*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 27 at 03:26 PM



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Gary Michael Peltzer*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 23 at 03:03 PM

KJ

“ *Gary definitely was the ife of the party! So very sorry for your loss. What a wonderful man and father. I treasure the time spent with him. Thinking of all of you, Maureen, Joan, Gretchen, and Andrew.*

Katie Jenkins - March 28 at 04:49 PM

BF

“ *Bollinger Family. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.*



Bollinger Family. - March 28 at 03:56 PM

BF

“ *Bollinger Family. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Michael Peltzer.*

Bollinger Family. - March 28 at 03:56 PM

LS

“ *Larry and Sandy Shue purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.*



Larry and Sandy Shue - March 27 at 10:59 AM

LS

“ *Larry and Sandy Shue planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Michael Peltzer.*

Larry and Sandy Shue - March 27 at 10:59 AM

RM

“ Rose M. purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.



Rose M. - March 27 at 10:53 AM

LS

“ Will miss you Gary. Prayers and Memories for one of the five "Wood Boys of Elmhurst."

Larry Shue - March 27 at 10:42 AM

JD

“ I am very sorry to hear of Gary's death. Maureen, Joan, Gretchen, and Andrew, I am so sorry for your loss. Gary and Maureen (and children extraordinaire!) were always a source of support and encouragement and love in my time of service at St. Bernadette's. Sunday mornings were always better with your presence. Gary always has a "under the breath" comment about the day that would make me laugh at the moment and also on my drive back to Emmitsburg. Generous to a fault, we will miss Gary very much. Please know that Gary and Maureen and family are in my prayers. May the God who created Gary in love, welcome him with all the saints and angels into His loving embrace. He is home. Much love,
Fr. Jim

JAMES MICHAEL DONOHUE - March 25 at 12:17 PM

SF

“ Gary was the guy you wanted to be near at a party because he was hilarious in the way he could tell a joke and story. Often times I would laugh so hard I couldn't talk. He was also the guy you just wanted to be near for his gentle caring, wise advice, and positive outlook. Gary will be missed by all of us.

Sandy & Paul Vornberger & family - March 24 at 07:14 PM

RR

“ From Ray and Barbara Reed

Our heartfelt condolences to the Gary Peltzer family.

We knew Gary and Maureen from St. Bernadette parish over many years.

He was a big guy with an even bigger smile, a good man who was a real pleasure to know.

His joyful presence will always be remembered, and dearly missed.

With love and deepest sympathy,

Ray and Barbara Reed

raymond reed - March 24 at 03:35 PM

SS

“ Larry and I were so proud to have called Gary our friend and neighbor for many years, he will be missed, his humor was so unique.

Sandy and Larry Shue - March 24 at 02:44 PM

TF

“ *The Zlockie and Copas Families purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.*



The Zlockie and Copas Families - March 24 at 12:10 PM

TF

“ *The Zlockie and Copas Families planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Michael Peltzer.*

The Zlockie and Copas Families - March 24 at 12:10 PM

GR

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Gretchen Rice - March 24 at 10:08 AM

DS

“ This is a heartbreak. This man was such a force, he was mighty in a quiet sense, he was such a kind man. One of our first encounters, well over a decade ago, was with Mo and Gary on their back deck in Severn. Gary was at the grill, nonchalantly grilling away, all the while Andrew's dog, (who "never bit anyone,") was determined to have a go at our pant legs. (smiley face.) The grillings, gatherings and jokes, jokes that often landed late for us, (smiley face) continued, whether at the Peltzer's or the Rodey's.. After Joan's and Joseph's marriage, we were one family, doing what every family lucky enough to be surrounded by loving people does, we gathered. We'll continue to gather, as Gary leaves behind a family highly committed to each other. To Mo, Joan, Gretchen, Andrew, believe us when we say, this big guy will be forever in our hearts. Much love, Deb and Walt.

Deb and Walt Skovron - March 24 at 06:35 AM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.



March 23 at 11:53 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.



March 23 at 10:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gary Michael Peltzer.

March 23 at 10:47 PM



“ Eden Flynn & Nick Humphries purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Gary Michael Peltzer.



Eden Flynn & Nick Humphries - March 23 at 08:29 PM



“ You managed to leave a really big hole when you left and we are really missing you. Save me a spot next to you. Hold it down until I get there. And when I do, I hope you got some new stories to tell. 'Til then, give Heaven some hell.

I love you, Dad. Always have, always will. □



Joan Skovron - March 23 at 08:23 PM