



Gerald Eugene Gerdes Sr.

May 8, 1929 - August 5, 2018

Gerald Eugene Gerdes, Sr. of Chester, MD, passed away at Fairfield Nursing Home in Crownsville, MD, on August 5, 2018. He was 89.

Born on May 8, 1929, in Wymore, NE, he was the son of the late Lester and Helen McKeever Gerdes.

He worked for the federal government teaching mechanics. "Jerry" as his friends called him was always an avid automotive enthusiast. In his younger years (1963), he built and operated Mid West Speedway in Lincoln, NE, until 1973. In his later years, he settled for driving his golf cart around the neighborhood with his dog, BoBo, and Terri and Gary's dog, Bowman. As he became less mobile, he settled for Terri pushing him in his wheel chair around the nursing home parking lot. He was always amazed how the auto body styles changed over the years.

Hardees meal number 5 with extra gravy, cheesburgers, and, of course, crabs and beer were among his favorite foods.

Gerald is survived by his daughter, Terri Butterwei and her husband, Gary, of Chester, MD; son, Jerry Gerdes, Jr. and his wife, Nancy, of Huntingtown, MD; two grandchildren, AJ Gerdes and his wife Hannah and Jeremy Gerdes. He was predeceased by his wife Mary Lou Gerdes in 1997; and by his brother,

Donald Gerdes.

A graveside service will be held on August 14, 2018, at 11 am, in Wymore Cemetery in Wymore, NE.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be sent to Grasonville MD VFW, 203 VFW Ave., Grasonville, MD 21638, where Jerry loved his cheeseburgers and bloody marys.

Cemetery Details

Wymore Cemetery

Wymore, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerald Eugene Gerdes Sr.*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Gerald Eugene Gerdes Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Gerald Eugene Gerdes Sr.*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Bev Baker lit a candle in memory of Gerald Eugene Gerdes Sr.*



Bev Baker - August 20, 2018 at 05:25 PM

AM

“ Mr. Gerdes was a memorable Bowie neighbor. We never knew what new "toy" would appear in his driveway. I bought my first car a 1967 White Coupe Plymouth Barracuda with a Black Vynol top from Mr. Gerdes. I loved that car.

I remember many a Friday or Saturday night running into him while watching the local guys run their Cameros, Mustangs and 'Cudas in a 1/4 mile race down Central Ave.

I think about Mr. Gerdes every New Years Eve...It was a "neighborhood tradition" for him to greet the new year with a shotgun blast from the backyard and to deliver a bottle of Homemade White Lightning to all of the neighbors.

New Years Day was also a special event because Nebraska was usually playing in a college bowl game that day. I remember Mr. Gertes proudly wearing his red sweater to honor his year...He was quite a neighborhood character and a good friend.

RIP Mr. Gerdes and thanks for the memories and the kindness you showed to me and my family.

Teri and Jerry remember that you are in my thoughts and my prayers.

~Art McQuade

Art McQuade - August 11, 2018 at 09:14 PM

CD

“ *Cindy Dill lit a candle in memory of Gerald Eugene Gerdes Sr.*



Cindy Dill - August 11, 2018 at 08:41 PM

CD


*Past bartender at the VFW
he was a very nice man*

Cindy Dill - August 11, 2018 at 08:42 PM

CC

“ *Mr. Gerdes.....I have so many memories with you as I was growing up in Bowie with your daughter, Terri. Good times they were! Till we meet again...*

Carol Daly Cook - August 11, 2018 at 04:54 AM

 Rachel Moran

“ *What can say about Big Geri except that I loved him like family. My daughter and my husband loved him as well. I will never forget him ever a day in my life. I am sorry for your loss. We send prayers and lots of love in this time of sorrow. Love Rachel, Robbie, Skylar and Landen*

Rachel Moran - August 09, 2018 at 10:37 PM