



Karl Erwin Giggenbach

December 31, 1938 - August 25, 2020

Karl Erwin Giggenbach of Chestertown, MD died on August 25, 2020 at Compass Regional Hospice in Centreville MD.

Karl was born on December 31, 1938 in New York City, to parents Casper and Dora Giggenbach. He attended grade school there, until the family moved to NJ, where he graduated from Lakewood H.S. in 1956. Karl then enlisted in the United States Navy ,where he served until 1960, when he was honorably discharged.

After his time in the Navy, he began working for Standard Electronics in Research and Development for about a year before beginning his career in construction. In 1969, he graduated from Ocean County College with an associate's degree in Civil Engineering Technology, a program for which he mentored young students for many years after.

In 1974, Karl married his wife, Shirley. They purchased their home in Chestertown in 1999, and finally retired there in 2004.

Karl is survived by his wife, Shirley Ann Giggenbach; son, Karl K. Giggenbach and wife Debbie of Howell, NJ; daughters Kerry Giggenbach and husband Chris MacVean of Harwood, MD, Kelly Morris and husband Jerry of St. John, Virgin Islands; six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Compass Regional Hospice in Centreville, MD,

K9's for Warriors:<https://www.k9sforwarriors.org/> or Search Dog Foundation: <https://searchdogfoundation.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Karl Erwin Giggenbach*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Karl Erwin Giggenbach*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Karl Erwin Giggenbach*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Cheryl Anderson lit a candle in memory of Karl Erwin Giggenbach*



Cheryl Anderson - September 23, 2020 at 01:46 PM

KC

“ Deepest sympathy for the loss of "Dad". From the time I met him at a track meet in high school with Kelly is just exactly as I referred to him from there on out. He had that ease about him that just made you feel welcome! I will miss him but so glad to have known him! Memories keep popping up that bring a smile to my face, from times in Manahawkin to Freehold.

My condolences to you and your family!

Katie and the Couture family

Kate Couture - September 02, 2020 at 06:54 PM

JB

“ My profuse sympathies to the family, Sincere warmth, graciousness, and a welcoming "aura" are only a few of the wonderful qualities that he possessed and demonstrated whenever one was in his presence. His strong character and gentlemanly demeanor are already missed.

Best thoughts to the Giggenbach family.

With condolences, Jeff Bryant

Jeffrey Bryant - September 02, 2020 at 02:41 PM

KE

“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



Kerry - September 01, 2020 at 10:57 AM

CY

“ Shirley and the Giggenbach clan

We are saddened with Karl's passing and share your loss. He was a dear friend and I have been very blessed with his friendship over the years. The weekly breakfast meetings and all the fun we had benefiting the kids.



I will miss hear dearly but have lots of great memories of him, Shirley and the family.

How can i forget the introduction to freezer cold stolis when I visited you in Freehold back then. :)

Thank you for sharing him with us.

Love

The yim yims (as he would call us)

Choong Yim - August 31, 2020 at 06:32 PM

NG

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Noreen Gomez - August 30, 2020 at 02:40 PM

NG

“ Noreen G. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Karl Erwin Giggenbach.



Noreen G. - August 30, 2020 at 02:36 PM

CG

“ 13 files added to the tribute wall



Carrie Grimes - August 29, 2020 at 04:23 PM

CG

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Carrie Grimes - August 29, 2020 at 04:03 PM

CG

“ We had the true pleasure of sharing some holidays with Karl and the Giggenbach family over the years, on the eastern shore. He was, simply put, a giant of a man. His welcoming presence and patriarchal pride in his big, boisterous, loving family always resonated at these gatherings, and is something I truly admired. We cherish those memories, feel lucky to have known him, and wish to share our deepest sympathies with Shirley, Kerry, Karl, Kelly, Debbie and the entire family.

Love,

Carrie, Mark, Campbell, Whitney and Kate Grimes



Carrie Grimes - August 29, 2020 at 03:55 PM

CG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Carrie Grimes - August 29, 2020 at 03:18 PM

KM

“ Love you



Kelly Morris - August 28, 2020 at 10:23 AM

SS

“ Dear Giggenbach family,

I have known Karl my whole life. I met him when I was a young girl living in the Silvermead community in Freehold and Karl and my grandfather, Seymour Silver, were building Silvermead. Karl was always incredibly kind, warm and generous. I have loved him like an uncle. Giggy was very important to Seymour both as a friend and colleague. We, as everyone who knew Karl, will always love and miss him.

With love, Sabrena, the Silver family and Silvermead community

Sabrena Silver - August 28, 2020 at 09:18 AM

KE

Sabrena, your father meant the world to our father! I hope they have happily reunited! Be well~Kerry

Kerry - September 01, 2020 at 08:26 AM

BC

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Barbara Crum - August 27, 2020 at 09:23 PM

ES

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Erika Shimps - August 27, 2020 at 09:01 PM

BC

“ The attached photo is the last time I spent time with Karl. We shared great stories of our mutual relatives from Germany....it was great fun. I can never forget how Karl was like a gentle giant...so kind and so funny.....and I can never say thank you enough for making me laugh and for making me feel apart of his family in some distant way. Rest In Peace Karl and God Bless you Shirley until we meet again. Barbara and Mike Crum



Barbara Crum - August 27, 2020 at 08:49 PM

JJ

“ 10 files added to the album Memories Album



john jerome - August 27, 2020 at 04:27 PM



Awesome Unc!

K - August 27, 2020 at 04:31 PM

JW

“ *Josie Elburn Wersten lit a candle in memory of Karl Erwin Giggenbach*



Josie Elburn Wersten - August 26, 2020 at 10:13 PM

FG

“ *My Grandpa Shirley, thank you for the years of love and family. Thank you for the snarky birthday cards and our standing weekly phone calls. For the twinkle in your blue eyes watching the boys run around your house, talking a mile a minute. For your support through Girl Scouts, college, marriage and life. I am grateful for the peace you have now and our memories. You will be forever missed. I love you so much. ❤️*



Favoritist Oldest Granddaughter - August 26, 2020 at 06:10 PM



“ *To the Butler,*

*When I was homeless you gave me shelter.
When I was hungry you gave me something to eat.
When I was lost you gave me guidance.
When I was suffering you gave me comfort
When I needed a kick in the ass you put on a boot.*

They say you can't pick your family but sometimes a family picks you.

*You changed me and the course of my life for the better and I will always be grateful.
Godspeed and God bless.*

Jim Nierle - August 26, 2020 at 03:07 PM

ES

*Karl, you are my favorite
Cusine, you must be someplace very special.
Meeting my first cousin
In America many years ago was unforgettable for me. My family and I
will miss you, especially
your smile and sense of humor.
We love you always, Karl*

Erika, Ingrid, Turtle, Barbara and Freddy

Erika Shimps - August 27, 2020 at 01:44 PM

FG

I always loved hearing the butler story

Favoritist Oldest Granddaughter - August 27, 2020 at 08:07 PM

DD

“ So sorry the loss of your Dad Karl our deepest symphony goes out to you and your family wow now I know where you are yours looks from good looking man. God Bless may he RIP



Deborah DeLorenzo - August 26, 2020 at 02:11 PM

JG

“ I don't really know if I have the words to sufficiently express how much you mean to us Grandpa Shirley... Thank you for filling our childhood with incredible amounts of love and laughter, usually from your sarcastic sense of humor. Thank you for every ounce of support and every single moment that you spent cheering us on (even if you sometimes thought we were a tad bit crazy). Thank you for every single chat we had just catching up on life in your river room. We will cherish every one of these moments and memories for the rest of our lives, and hold them and you close to our hearts. You will always be missed. We love you so very much.
Love always,
Jessicups and Matt



Jessica Giggengrove - August 26, 2020 at 01:16 PM

SG

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Shirley Giggenbach - August 26, 2020 at 10:35 AM

BW

“ *A kind and gentle man who loved people and loved life. We will miss his smile and kindness. Our love and condolences to Shirley and their family.*

Bill and Mary White - August 25, 2020 at 06:10 PM

CC

“ *Chestertown Cardiology lit a candle in memory of Karl Erwin Giggenbach*



Chestertown Cardiology - August 25, 2020 at 02:23 PM