



## Gary Ray Jones

September 28, 1947 - April 14, 2023

Gary Ray Jones, age 75, a longtime resident of Ozark, Arkansas passed away Friday, April 14, 2023, while in the loving care of his Greenhurst Nursing Center family in Charleston, Arkansas. Gary made his entry to the kingdom of heaven with family by his side.

Gary was born at Pillstrom Hospital in Altus, Arkansas on September 28, 1947, and was the youngest of three children born to Noble Manson and Lois Cagle Jones. He was the only boy with two older sisters, who protected and closely watched over their little brother for a lifetime.

Gary was a 1965 graduate of Ozark High School. In 1969, he entered the United States Navy where he served for four years with nearly all his time as active duty in the Vietnam War on the USS Midway.

During his service he received the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Meritorious Unit Commendation Medal.

After his military career, Gary completed coursework at Westark Community College and College of the Ozarks and worked various jobs. He was a shipping and receiving supervisor at Whirlpool in Fort Smith, Arkansas for many years. Gary was also a member of the Church of Christ in Ozark.

Gary had an infectious smile and a personality that made him loved by all that knew him. He enjoyed spending time with family, cooking, fishing, hunting, gardening, sweet treats and smiling while being notoriously late for family functions. He was witty and known at Greenhurst as the “Chick Magnet” because of his pleasant, friendly and kind nature. The nurses and aides called him GarBear, shortened over time from calling him Gary Bear.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents and is survived by two loving and dedicated sisters and brothers-in-law, Shirley Rickard and husband Gene of Mulberry, Arkansas and Sue Morris and husband Glen of Cecil, Arkansas; and one remaining and loving aunt, Mary Cagle Askins of Paris, Arkansas.

Gary is also survived by one niece, Kristi Rickard Robertson and husband Jerry of Lamar, Arkansas; two nephews, Greg Morris and wife Chris and David Morris and wife Sandra all of Cecil, Arkansas; six great-nephews, Nathaniel Robertson and wife Jerica, Ben Robertson, Brad Morris, Andrew Morris, Tyler Morris and Kelvin Morris and wife Abbie; one great-niece, Kelsea Morris DeArmond and husband Garrison; two step great-nephews, Josh Thomas and Jaylan Thomas; three great-great-nephews, Hunter Morris, Maddix Morris and Deacon Morris; four great-great-nieces, Alayna DeArmond, Amelia DeArmond, Alivia DeArmond and Naomi Morris; and multiple treasured cousins from the Cagle family, including Debby Cravens, who faithfully stayed by Gary and his sisters’ sides during the last week at Greenhurst.

Visitation will be Monday, April 17th, from 1:00 to 2:00 PM. Funeral service will follow visitation Monday at 2:00 PM at Shaffer Funeral Home in Ozark with C.A. Kuykendall officiating and burial afterwards at Highland Cemetery under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Gary's great-nephews, Nathaniel, Ben, Brad, Andrew and Kelvin and great-niece, Kelsea and her husband Garrison will serve as pallbearers.

# Cemetery Details

## Highland Cemetery

Highway 64 West  
Ozark, AR 72949

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home  
2315 West Commercial Street  
PO Box 680  
Ozark, AR 72949  
(479) 667-4147  
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

*Service to Follow*

## Funeral Service

APR 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Shaffer Funeral Home  
2315 West Commercial Street  
PO Box 680  
Ozark, AR 72949  
(479) 667-4147  
shafferfuneralhome@gmail.com

## Burial

APR 17 (CT)

Highland Cemetery  
Highway 64 West  
Ozark, AR 72949

# Tribute Wall

KS

“ From day one garbear had my heart he always made sure I had his attention he would holler hey hey come here he would say and when I would come over he would grab his jaw I would say it hurts like crazy huh he would nod then say I love you and try to get me to give him kisses witch I did always on top of the head I will miss him and I am praying 🙏 for his sweet sweet sisters to find peace because he is no longer hurting like crazy I love you garbear



katina self - April 17, 2023 at 02:22 PM



“ 1 file added to the album slideshow



Shaffer Home - April 17, 2023 at 12:16 PM



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



April 16, 2023 at 11:01 PM

NN

“ I remember Gary from school days and as Shirley and Sue’s little brother. He was always smiling. He will be missed

Nan Nelson - April 16, 2023 at 05:34 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Gary Ray Jones.



April 16, 2023 at 04:24 PM

BP

“ Becky Penland lit a candle in memory of Gary Jones



Becky K Penland - April 16, 2023 at 12:57 PM

ME

“ Gary was so very kind. Loved his family, was a true friend.  
Marsha Edwards

Marsha Edwards - April 16, 2023 at 10:26 AM

JA

“ Shirley, Sue, Richard & I will not be able to attend visitation or funeral. We both have long awaited appointments that we dare not cancel for fear of 6 months waiting time again.  
I always loved being around Gary as we grew up & in our young years. He made you laugh & his smile was so infectious. Even as we grew & our lives parted somewhat, we picked right up as though it were yesterday.  
I know how much you both will miss him as will Debbie & Dorinda. You are in our prayers as you say final farewell on this earth. Judith

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**Judith Armstrong** - April 16, 2023 at 09:10 AM

DC

“ Cousins that are close become more like brothers and sisters. Gary was that to me and many others. He was our “Ray” of sunshine and we will miss him dearly ❤️

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**Debby and Charlie Cravens** - April 16, 2023 at 08:39 AM

BS

“ I have way to many memories to list. I will never forget the time that I spent with Gary at greenhurst. He was one of my favorites. My heart hurts so much for you (Shirley and Sue). My prayers are with you all during this time. Until we meet again. Rest in peace Garbear. You will be greatly missed.

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**Becky Stovall** - April 16, 2023 at 08:23 AM