



Gary Lloyd Stafford

August 18, 1943 - July 29, 2020

Gary Lloyd Stafford, age 76, of Albia, passed away on Wednesday, July 29, 2020, Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines, IA.

Gary was born on August 18, 1943, to Lloyd and Florence (Fisher) Stafford at their home in Blakesburg, IA. He grew up and attended school in Albia. Following high school, Gary served his country in the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam era. He was united in marriage to Vivian Leggett-Dye on August 19, 1978, in Las Vegas.

Gary worked on the dock in California before becoming an over the road truck driver for Briggs Transportation for many years. Gary then went to work for Barr-Nunn Transportation where he was employed for 17 years retiring in 2008.

Gary was a member of the Howard Cessna Post #136 in Albia and was a lifelong Green Bay Packers fan. He was very adventurous and in his younger years enjoyed motocross, scuba diving, and countless sky dives. He enjoyed being outdoors, going on hunting trips and annual deer hunts with his family. He loved going to different auctions and flea markets where he often camped. Gary enjoyed reading, bowling, playing snooker, and dancing. He loved to visit with others and never knew a stranger. Gary cherished spending time with his family and friends, with the annual hog roast over Labor Day weekend being

one of his favorite activities.

Gary is survived by his wife of 41 years, Vivian Stafford; 2 sons, Mark (Tami) Stafford and Paul (Susie) Stafford; 8 grandchildren, Jesse, Ella, Evelyn, Jacob, Judge, Daniel, Tyler, and Shelby; 4 great grandsons, Ethan, Nathan, Drex and Kayden; 2 brothers, James "Bud" (Kitty) Stafford and Bob (Dianna) Stafford; 3 sisters, Eileen (Elmer) Davis, Donna Dinneen, and Pauline (Pat) Hendron. Gary is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and good friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Florence; a son, Bryan Dye; and 2 brothers, Richard and Earl Stafford.

Visitation will be held from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 1, 2020, at the Tharp Funeral Home in Albia, with Gary's family present to greet family and friends. Per Gary's wishes, his body will be cremated following visitation and a private family burial will be held at a later date.

A memorial has been established to the Welcome Home Soldier Monument in Albia.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 1. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Tharp Funeral Home
116 Benton Ave.
Albia, IA 52531
(641) 932-3129
<https://www.tharpfh.com/>

Tribute Wall



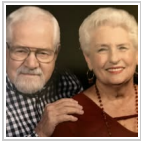
“ Gary Lloyd Stafford

January 30, 2023 at 05:06 AM



“ Gary Lloyd Stafford

January 30, 2023 at 02:53 AM



“ So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. I will be praying for Vivian and the whole family. The one particular memory I have of Gary was when we were very young and we square-danced together along with Ronnie Mathews and others from Albia. Gary was a wonderful person and I didn't realize all the things he accomplished in his life here on earth. He will be missed by all his classmates at Albia High.
Linda Lewis Stanford

Linda Stanford - August 04, 2020 at 07:52 AM



“ Vivian, I have been thinking of you these past few days knowing how difficult this is. Find your strength and use it. We all know your fortitude. I think such good thoughts of you and know you will emerge from this with the help of your friends and family. Steven.

Steven Warner - August 03, 2020 at 06:29 PM

JR

“ Jackie Ribinson lit a candle in memory of Gary Lloyd Stafford



Jackie Ribinson - August 02, 2020 at 09:55 AM

JR

Vivian, my prayers and comfort to you and your family. Love.

Jackie Ribinson - August 02, 2020 at 09:58 AM



Thank you!

Susie Rex-Stafford - August 07, 2020 at 10:02 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.



August 01, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.



July 31, 2020 at 10:19 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.*



July 31, 2020 at 12:23 PM



“ *Cheryl A Gray lit a candle in memory of Gary Lloyd Stafford*



Cheryl A Gray - July 31, 2020 at 12:05 PM



“ *Jeanne Smith lit a candle in memory of Gary Lloyd Stafford*



Jeanne Smith - July 31, 2020 at 11:42 AM



*We are saddened to learn of Gary's passing. When we visited I always knew that Gary would find something to chat about. Hope to make it to Iowa this fall and catch up with you.
Jim & Jeanne Smith and Ben & Gina Fletcher.*

Jeanne Smith - July 31, 2020 at 11:47 AM

CK

“ We so sorry, but thankful for memories. Can't forget trying to sleep in the DFW airport with Gary and Viv. What a fun trip!!! We are praying for Gary's family. Steve and Carolyn Knupp

Carolyn Knupp - July 31, 2020 at 11:17 AM

PO

“ Vivian and family, My symphies and condolence at his time of grief. I was rather fond of Gary.



Patricia J Ostermeyer - July 31, 2020 at 10:07 AM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.



July 31, 2020 at 10:00 AM

EM

“ ED MCGINN lit a candle in memory of Gary Lloyd Stafford



ED MCGINN - July 31, 2020 at 08:25 AM

LM

“ Vivian, I am sorry for your loss. Linda rowley mann

linda rowley mann - July 30, 2020 at 09:49 PM



Thank you!

Susie Rex-Stafford - August 07, 2020 at 09:59 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.



July 30, 2020 at 07:48 PM

MS

“ Mike Kathleen Matt Kenzie Chad Brynn Scott purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.



Mike Kathleen Matt Kenzie Chad Brynn Scott - July 30, 2020 at 07:09 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.



July 30, 2020 at 06:30 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.*



July 30, 2020 at 06:22 PM



“ *Uncle Gary was one of the best people I know, always so loving and considerate. He was a huge support system for the family. He will be greatly missed.*



From Jodi & Chad

Jodi Stafford - July 30, 2020 at 06:11 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Lloyd Stafford.*



July 30, 2020 at 05:33 PM