



Jerry Lee Gillen

February 14, 1956 - September 16, 2023

Jerry Lee Gillen, age 67, of Ottumwa, IA, passed away on Saturday, September 16, 2023, at his home.

Jerry was born on February 14, 1956, at the Smith Hospital in Albia, IA, to Chester A. Sr. and Margaret L. (Forney) Gillen. He grew up attending school in Moravia and later received his GED.

Jerry was a lifelong farmer and had a love for the land. He was an avid outdoorsman who loved to hunt and trap. His favorite hobby, which he took great pride in, was running longline traplines with his best friend, Doug Harrington, whom over the years he caught hundreds of raccoons, beavers, coyotes, and muskrats with. Jerry also loved to drink coffee, no matter the time of day or year.

Jerry is survived by a sister, Judy (Edward) Richards of Ottumwa, IA; a brother, Chester Gillen Jr. of Blakesburg, IA; a nephew; and several cousins and good friends. Jerry is also survived by his best friend, Doug Harrington and Doug's daughter, Skyler (Harrington) Stoltz, who affectionately called him Uncle Jerry.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Chester and Margaret; and 2 brothers, John and Jim Gillen.

Per Jerry's wishes, his body has been cremated and a Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Cards of condolences can be mailed to Jerry's family c/o Tharp Funeral Home at 116 Benton Ave. West, Albia, IA 52531.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jerry was a good friend for many years, many great times he was a great shuffle board player. Jerry will be missed greatly.* ”

Lisa Tennis - September 21, 2023 at 02:03 AM