



Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher

November 23, 1940 - August 6, 2022

Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher, Coach, Mentor, and a True Family man passed away peacefully on August 6, 2022, with family by his side. Gene, 81, was born in Muskegon Michigan to Bert and Irene Visscher. He attended Muskegon High School where he developed his lifelong passion for basketball and where he met the love of his life Barb (Heneveld) Visscher.

After high school, Gene joined the Army and was stationed overseas. His assignment was as a bridge builder, but he found a way to represent the Army by playing basketball across Europe, where he refined his basketball skills.

After the Army, Gene returned to Muskegon and attended Muskegon Community College (MCC) on a basketball scholarship. After graduating from MCC, Gene and Barb were married. They then moved to Ogden, Utah where Gene finished his collegiate basketball career at Weber State University. He received numerous honors and awards while at Weber State and was drafted by the NBA's Baltimore Bullets in the 1966 NBA draft. Gene decided that he wanted to start a family with Barb instead of the NBA and pursued his professional basketball career with the local Muskegon Panthers. After his playing career, Gene accepted a position as a teacher / coach at Reese Puffer High School in Muskegon Michigan which allowed him to continue to pursue his basketball passion as well as raising a family. Gene was so successful at Reese Puffer that he got the opportunity to move to the collegiate coaching ranks with his alma mater, Weber State. He held numerous coaching positions at Weber State, University of Wyoming, and Northern Arizona University

before finally landing in Charlotte as the Athletic Director / History teacher. He retired from Charlotte Public Schools after a successful career. Gene was also an avid outdoorsman who liked hunting and fishing, when he remembered to bring his gun / rod. It did not matter to him if he caught anything, he truly loved the outdoors. After his retirement, Gene was inducted into the Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame as well as the Weber State Hall of Fame. With all his accomplishments, Gene's true passions were his wife and his family. He lived a full and fulfilled life, making numerous friends throughout his journeys. Gene is survived by his wife of 58 years, Barb (Heneveld) Visscher; son, Jerry (Shannon) Visscher; daughter, Traci (Dr. Kendall) Bos; six grandchildren -- who were his pride and joy; Samantha Visscher, Ethan Bos, Reagan Bos, Madelynn Visscher, Lauren Visscher, and Emmitt Visscher; brother, Robert Visscher. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Terri Lynn Visscher; sisters, Lucille (Visscher) Smith, Pauline (Visscher) Hoekenga, Joyce (Visscher) Eitniear, and Carol (Visscher) Westjohn; brother, Gerald Visscher. A Celebration of Life will be held at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte, Michigan on Saturday, August 13, 2022. Visitation will be from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm, with a Celebration of life beginning at 2:00 p.m. A gathering at the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Charlotte will be held after the service. It will be webcast so you may watch it from any computer, smartphone, or mobile device that has internet access. Go to www.prayfuneral.com, click on Eugene Charles Visscher tribute, then click on Photos & videos from your computer (or Media from your smart phone). If desired, the family suggests memorial contributions to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences online in Eugene's Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte, MI.

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 13. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W Seminary St
Charlotte, MI 48813

Celebration of Life

AUG 13. 2:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W Seminary St
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Webcast in memory of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 13, 2022 at 01:51 PM



“ Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 12, 2022 at 09:42 PM



“ Barb and family,
We have such great memories of all of you while living in Flagstaff.
Gene was a GREAT guy, coach and family man. The service
yesterday was a wonderful tribute to him!

John and Carol Holms - August 14, 2022 at 05:27 PM

GP

“ Played for Coach Visscher in 1977-78 when we won district finals, he was a great coach and role model. He taught us that teamwork and determination and conditioning would win games. I don't know how he got the nickname but we would call him Mean Gene the dancing machine. My wife and I send condolences to the family on losing such a great guy. From Greg and Angie Parker

Greg Parker - August 14, 2022 at 10:04 AM

AV

“ Gene was just an all around good guy. A gentle giant of a man. I was saddened to hear of his passing and offer my sincere condolences to his family. His was a life well lived and will be missed by all who I knew him.

Al Vercellino

Al Vercellino - August 14, 2022 at 12:00 AM



“ 2 files added to the album LifeTributes



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 13, 2022 at 12:43 PM



“ 48 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 12, 2022 at 09:37 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms* was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher.



August 12, 2022 at 12:17 PM



“ *Played freshman ball for coach Visscher in 1070-71. Great memories, taught me the game, that allowed for a greater level of competition; loved the man. Wished I could have talked with him one more time. My sincere condolences to the family for your loss.*
Dennis Moss

Dennis Moss - August 11, 2022 at 04:19 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher.



August 11, 2022 at 01:08 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher.



August 10, 2022 at 07:23 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Gene's passing. My dad and Bert were cousins, I spent a lot of time at their house growing up, truly wonderful family who left me with very special memories. The one thing I will always remember was my dad taking me to some of Gene's games. He was bigger than life to a young kid. Holding your family, and his brother Bob, in thoughts.

Judy Volkering VanDerHoeven - August 10, 2022 at 03:30 PM



“ Was so sorry to hear of passing of Gene. Worked with Gene as a player and as my Assistant Coach. So many great memories of those years. Gene and Barbara where very close to Ann and me. The outstanding feature of our relationship was his loyalty to me and the Weber State program. Our deepest sympathies go to Barbra and family.

Phil Johnson - August 09, 2022 at 05:08 PM

SM

“ Will never forget when he got kicked out of the game at Okemos, from the scores table. Today's world might view that as a bad thing, not me. Loved having him in my life growing up

Scott McConnell - August 09, 2022 at 01:35 PM

DN

“ My husband Curt Nations played under coach Visscher He was an amazing coach plus an amazing person. He ran the Weber State team with tenacity and dignity. Curtis passed away on the 11th of July. I'm sure they will have a reunion and talk about basketball. I am so sorry for your family and their huge loss with the death of this wonderful coach. He was an amazing person. Thank you for sharing him with us. Debbie Nations wife of Curtis Nations

Debbie Nations - August 09, 2022 at 11:55 AM

CW

“ Chad & Carol Walker lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher



Chad & Carol Walker - August 09, 2022 at 11:44 AM

KA

“ I have such great memories of our families hanging out while I was growing up. Gene was a gentle giant and so much like my dad. My heart pours out to the Visscher family. Hugs, Kelly (Young) Andrews

Kelly Andrews - August 08, 2022 at 10:34 PM

MC

“ 1 file added to the album Gene Visscher Photos



Monique Colizzi - August 08, 2022 at 08:17 PM



This is an awesome picture/ memory, Monique! Thanks for sharing.
Teresa Cherry

Teresa Armstrong-Cherry - August 13, 2022 at 01:24 PM

DV

“ I am heartbroken. Uncle Gene was my hero. I can still recite his stats as a player and coach. As a child, I thought he was the biggest person in the world. I was beyond proud of him. He was also a fine fisherman and I have great memories of fishing with him here in Montana. God bless you, Uncle Gene.

*Dave Visscher
Livingston, Montana.*

Dave Visscher - August 08, 2022 at 06:28 PM

JV

I remember when you almost made him fall into the fire pit due to your bar keeping skills on the Smith River. Hope your toe is OK.

Jerry Visscher - August 08, 2022 at 07:49 PM

DV

Ha! Thanks, Jerry. Now that's a memory!

Dave Visscher - August 09, 2022 at 09:20 AM

MC

“ *Very sorry to hear this. Mr. Visscher was a huge part of the Charlotte High School culture. He truly cared about each and every student, whether they were a student athlete or not. Lots of good memories of him at the Colizzis with my dad and friends, out back hunting and inside laughing, telling stories and living life! You will be missed...*

Monique T Colizzi - August 08, 2022 at 04:49 PM

JV

“ *<https://weberstatesports.com/news/2022/8/8/mens-basketball-weber-state-mourns-the-passing-of-former-mens-basketball-player-and-coach-gene-visscher>*

Jerry Visscher - August 08, 2022 at 04:41 PM



“ *Peaceful Reflections Cross "Memories" was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Charles Visscher.*



August 08, 2022 at 10:45 AM