



Gary Lee Holtz

May 25, 1936 - February 9, 2022

Gary Lee Holtz of Charlotte, a man of kindness and a keen intellect passed away on Wednesday, February 9, 2022. Gary was born on May 25, 1936 to Leon and Dorothy (Plattner) Holtz. Gary studied at Tri-State College and later MSU, earning his Bachelor's Degree in mechanical engineering, then his Master's Degree in Heat Transfer at USC. He married the love of his life, Nancy Holmes, in August of 1957 and they built a home and life together.

Gary worked in the aerospace industry with the companies of Atomics International, Lockheed and retiring from The Aerospace Corporation on April 1, 2003 after 40 years there. Following his retirement Gary continued in the industry as a consultant, and opened his own machine shop, Kestrel Company. Using his machine shop, Gary also restored a prize-winning Ducati motorcycle, and in the 1980's he designed a tofu cutter for La Baselo Tofu Company.

A lover of the outdoors, Gary enjoyed backpacking in the Sierra Nevada's with his children. Antique restoration was another refined skill of Gary's, and he was an avid reader of mysteries and historical novels. His knowledge of history and details was unique; he always knew a little bit about everything.

Gary is survived by his wife of 64 years, Nancy; daughter Karen E. Holtz (Dan Weick); granddaughter, Syrina Rae Lounsberry; and sister, Linda A. Sells. He

was predeceased by his sons, Gary Lee Jr. and Steven Gary; parents, Leon and Dorothy; sister, Janet L. Larson; and brother, Doyle.

Friends are encouraged to support Gary's family by sharing memories on his Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com. Visitation is Friday, March 4, 5-7:00 PM at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte. Memorial services are Saturday, March 5, 11:00 AM at Peace Lutheran Church in Charlotte. If memorial contributions are desired, Peace Lutheran Church, The Lupus Foundation, Capital Area Humane Society, or SIREN/Eaton Shelter are suggested by the family. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte.

Cemetery Details

Floral Lawn Memorial Gardens

1490 East Michigan Ave
Battle Creek, MI 49014-

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 4. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Pray Funeral Home
401 W. Seminary St.
Charlotte, MI 48813

Memorial Service

MAR 5. 11:00 AM (ET)

Peace Lutheran Church
830 North Cochran Avenue
Charlotte, MI 48813

Tribute Wall

EG

“ when other people were absent the Holtz family was there for me - I know that this great man and his family are the reason I became who I am today. Although life is not a perfect journey growing up with Gary, Nancy, Steve and Karen carried me through to where I am today. I know this is a little late in posting however, the love will always be present. ellen.

ellen gannon - May 04 at 11:40 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.



March 04, 2022 at 11:08 AM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.



March 02, 2022 at 11:01 AM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.*



February 26, 2022 at 08:05 AM



“ *My name is Mike Williams. I grew up next door to the Holtz family. I was 11 years younger than Gary and I do not remember him well but our mothers were best friends for many years and Mrs. Holtz often told me how proud she was of Gary. Mrs. Holtz loved her son and his family with all her heart as they grew up in the magic land of California. Gary was always a model of a successful son, husband, and father.*

My condolences to his family.

Michael Williams

Michael Williams - February 25, 2022 at 09:27 AM



“ *Ron and Patty Hostine purchased the [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.*

Ron and Patty Hostine - February 24, 2022 at 08:55 AM

JD

“ *JoAnn Holmes and Bobbi Dunham purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.*



JoAnn Holmes and Bobbi Dunham - February 21, 2022 at 05:56 PM

JL

“ *Gary was such a inspiration to me! He was originally a cherished friend of my Dad's. That is how I originally met Gary. My Dad was so proud of his friend Gary right up till the day my Dad passed away. Whenever we were taking care of projects out at the desert house owned by Gary and Nancy. My Dad would always tell me how important these folks are and that he wants everything done exactly right for them. And after Dad passed, Gary became all the more important to me. I looked up too and cherished Gary like my Dad. Gary was ALWAYS the best human he could be. He then met my wife Berni and was once again the welcoming and charming guy that was just Gary. He would ask Berni, "Are you behaving yourself" just to be comical, She would reply " maybe" or " I can't always behave" to be equally comical. Gary made this planet spin smoother. He made every day brighter and is going to be greatly missed. Our sincere condolences go out to Nancy, Karen and all of the holtz family. We love y'all.....Jeff and Berni*



Jeff and Berni Lamore - February 21, 2022 at 04:05 PM

PB

“ Nancy and family, I am so very sorry for your loss. Even though I never met Gary, my thoughts and prayers go out to the family.

Pauline Borgman

Pauline Borgman - February 17, 2022 at 10:09 AM

RL

“ Gary was a giving person. He truly had a heart of gold. If you need support or help of any kind he was there for you. The world is a sadder place with out him. But remember that we will see him again and the world will be a great place.

Ralph Lounsberry - February 16, 2022 at 12:10 PM

PK

“ Karen it is my hope that you and your mother and your daughter and all of your father's loved ones are forever comforted by the memories of the many smiles and moments of laughter that you each shared with your dad. Here too is hoping that the richness of your Faith brings you peace.

Paul and Brenda Kearney

Paul Kearney - February 16, 2022 at 07:27 AM

RL

“ Ralph and Nancy Lounsberry purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.



Ralph and Nancy Lounsberry - February 15, 2022 at 09:06 PM

DF

“ David F. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.



David F. - February 15, 2022 at 12:59 PM

AF

“ Dear Nancy and family, we are so very sorry for your loss of Gary. I hope you have comfort in knowing he's in no pain and is with Our Lord. Sending you prayers, love and hugs Nancy. ❤️

Angie Foster - February 15, 2022 at 11:48 AM



“ Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Holtz.



February 14, 2022 at 09:21 PM

BR

“ Gary was one of the finest person that I ever met!! I enjoyed every minute that I spent with him and Nancy. I will always remember the Clint Eastwood movie Cry Macho. I went with Gary and Nancy to the downtown theatre last fall. That was the last time I saw him. I will always remember Gary. Rest in Peace --Gary Bill Rhoades

bill rhoades - February 14, 2022 at 08:41 PM