



Gary Priesman

September 22, 1950 - August 6, 2015

Gary Lee Priesman, 64, of Hastings, MI, passed away on August 6, 2015. He was born on September 22, 1950, to Neal and Leah Priesman in Charlotte, MI.

Gary loved to entertain folks at the lake always joking and picking on those he cared about. He had a soft, generous heart and was devoted to his children, grandchildren and extended family. He enjoyed building a successful Pawn Shop in Nashville, MI and then later opening Second Hand City in Battle Creek, MI. . Gary was an avid sportsman who enjoyed deer hunting and camping, and fishing. His family remembers how he could filet a fish faster than you could blink an eye. He was also an amazing cook, and gardener He loved the winter season and looked forward to Christmas with his family and friends.

Gary is survived by his son, Neal (Chris) Priesman; daughters Shannon Priesman and Gretchen Priesman; 3 grandchildren Leah, Gary, and Aaron; sisters, Angela Priesman, Suzanne McClure, and Sandra Wells; and brother, Rodney Priesman. He was preceded in death by his brothers Lynn Priesman, and Jack Priesman.

Visitation will be held Sunday and Monday 6-8 pm, at Pray Funeral Home in Charlotte. Funeral services will be held at 11:00 am the Pray Funeral Home

Charlotte, Michigan, Tuesday, August 11, 2015. Interment will be at Barryville Cemetery.

Memorials are suggested to the American Cancer Society. The family is in the care of Pray Funeral Home, Charlotte. Family and friends are encouraged to share remembrances and condolences on Gary's Tribute Page at www.prayfuneral.com

Cemetery Details

Barryville Cemetery

6043 M-79
Nashville, MI 49073

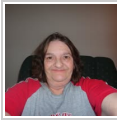
Tribute Wall



“ *Pray Funeral Home, Inc created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Priesman*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 08, 2015 at 05:40 PM



Very nice tribute

Robyn Otenev - August 09, 2015 at 01:50 PM

RP

Nice tribute

Robert Pruden - August 10, 2015 at 08:27 AM

“ Growing up one mile from Uncle Neal and Aunt Leah's house, I spent many weekends and weekdays in the summer to be with Suzy. At the time she had four brothers; no sisters. The youngest brother Jack never bothered us. As I recall, Lynn screamed when upset, Rodney was most mischievous and Gary was most inquisitive. Once, after all was in bed for the night, Suzy and I used the opportunity to smoke a cigarette under the covers. It wasn't long before we heard someone sniffing the air, and the Gary said; "I'm going to tell Ma you girls are smoking." With that, we offered him some puffs and after he did; we knew he wouldn't tell because he smoked too.

Another time after all was in bed, we girls didn't have the opportunity beforehand to find a decent size cigarette butt to smoke. Sally Overmyer spent the night, so there were three of us using the stairs in search of a cigarette. Uncle Neal heard the squeak of the stair steps too many times and yelled; "The next person who comes down the steps is going to get their butt whipped." When the time came that we needed to use the bathroom downstairs, we didn't dare. Desperate, we looked for something to pee in and found a dome lid lunch pail. Early in the morning before Neal & Leah and the boys awakened, the lunch pail was emptied of its contents, including a poop-turd and returned to its original location. The next school morning, Gary brought his lunch pail downstairs for his mother to pack. He put it under her nose and said; "Phew Ma, my lunch pail stinks!" Immediately, Aunt Leah slapped the pail away from her face and told him to blankety-blank throw it away!

Suzy and I spoke a made-up language around her brothers when we didn't want them to know what was said. Gary was the only brother who made attempts to guess what we spoke. Once he thought he had it figured out and said "Choing-boing" back to us. He was way off, but he tried.

Gary sometimes acted the instigator, but ended up being the one in trouble. Suzy and I were dancing upstairs in her room; causing the

floor to shake. Gary didn't like that the floor shook and went downstairs to tell his mother. Aunt Leah was sweeping the dining room floor (below Suzy's room) with a broom when Gary approached her. Suzy and I watched through the floor grate in the ceiling. Gary said; "Gee Ma, look how the girls are making the floor shake." Immediately he was struck with the broom and told to get out of her way.

Around the age of twelve and sitting at the kitchen table, Gary mumbled words of displeasure and said; "I'll tell you one thing, when I'm twenty-four, I'm moving out of here." Uncle Neal said; "I've got news for you buddy, you're moving out before that!"

There's so much more I could write about Gary, and all of us have our special memories of him. I still picture him wearing his bearskin coat and red bandana tied around his head to keep his long hair out of his face. Within this past year Gary wrote a two-page letter and sent to me to express his appreciation. It brought tears to my eyes knowing it took painstaking time to print each letter in a word because his hands shook. Gary will have rewards in Heaven for all the good works he has done for others. His heart was made up of compassion and forgiveness. Cousin Brenda

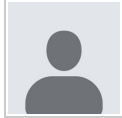
Brenda J. Hoeve - August 17, 2015 at 02:09 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Life Tributes*



Wm Priesman - August 13, 2015 at 08:36 AM



Gary an i at Higgins lake w/our new coon skin hats Uncle Neal between two nuts,he laughd so hard that day

Wm Priesman - August 29, 2015 at 07:43 AM

SU

“ *Summer lit a candle in memory of Gary Priesman*



Summer - August 10, 2015 at 12:17 PM

RC

“ *I went to school with Shannon I got to new her family prayer are with you Renee chapman*

Renee chapman - August 10, 2015 at 08:47 AM

RP

“ *So sorry to hear this.. God be with his family and friends... Robert and Vickie Pruden*

Robert Pruden - August 10, 2015 at 08:19 AM

GP

“ *I loved my grandpa so so very much and I just wanted to say sorry for your losses.*



Gary von Priesman - August 09, 2015 at 12:21 AM



Awe buddy. And im sorry for yours

Angela Priesman - August 09, 2015 at 08:47 PM



“ 32 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Pray Funeral Home, Inc. - August 08, 2015 at 05:31 PM



“ *Your Baby Sister lit a candle in memory of Gary Priesman*



your baby sister - August 08, 2015 at 02:33 PM



“ *Logan lit a candle in memory of Gary Priesman*



Logan - August 08, 2015 at 01:46 PM

DE

“ *Deb(Ells)Jones lit a candle in memory of Gary Priesman*



Deb(Ells)Jones - August 08, 2015 at 11:40 AM

DE

“ *I remember my cousin Gary would always tease my kids and Randy a lot and oh he teased me to believe me he was a stinker but that was one of the things Gary loved to do to everyone. There were great times with Gary. He had many get together 's at his place with cookouts, fires, and the hay rides were awesome. But Gary loved having the people around. Gary was great at times but also could be a stinker. Loved him though. R.I.P. Gary!!!*

Deb(Ells)Jones - August 08, 2015 at 11:38 AM

LB

“ *Linda Baird lit a candle in memory of Gary Priesman*



Linda Baird - August 08, 2015 at 09:29 AM

MH

“ *My most heart felt condolences to the priesman family. I wouldn't be the person I am today with out Gary . Ever since I met I've been treated like family and I am forever thankful.*

Mike Hay - August 08, 2015 at 08:53 AM

DW

“ Gray was a great friend I've known him since we were young kids he will be greatly missed R.I.P. my friend it was a great ride I hope to meet up with you again on your new journey.

dave welch - August 08, 2015 at 08:34 AM

SM

“ As a child I always knew seeing Gary would be an adventure, we was always playing tricks on me and getting me to the craziest things. He taught me to always be on my toes. We had great times and many laughs. He will be missed. Prayers and love to his family./ cousin Sue Mcmillen

Susan Mcmillen - August 08, 2015 at 08:30 AM

RO

“ So many Memories from the 1st time i met Gary he had a heart of gold do anything in the world for a person as long as you didn't cross him i remember him best from the 70's and 80's R.I.P.Gary

Robyn otenev - August 08, 2015 at 07:53 AM

SM

“ SO Many Memories of my Uncle Gary. Loved hunting season and when he used to come to my parents property hunting. Also So much fun at the Lake. Funny and gross memory of him was when he would put his fishing magots in his trache and shoot them out to gross my brother and I out. He was Always fun to be around. You will be missed.

Summer McDermott - August 07, 2015 at 06:28 PM

TS

“ Growing up I used to spend summers with "Uncle Gary" and the whole Priesman clan, worked in the store, and went fishing. Gary always called himself "Bayou Gary" while we were fishing, and one time when his favorite lure got hung up in a tree on shore, he dove off the boat, clothes and all to go after it. I laughed so hard.

Tyler Smith - August 07, 2015 at 05:51 PM