

Gerald Hastings - obituary

Posted: Friday, May 12, 2017 9:43 am

Gerald Wayne Hastings, 73, of Isle, passed away peacefully in his sleep on May 8, 2017, at Aitkin Health Services in Aitkin.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday May 13, from 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. at the Wahkon Inn. Military honors by the Isle Honor Guard will also held in a private ceremony that day.

Arrangements by Mille Lacs Funeral home, Isle.

Gerald is survived by children Tina (Chris) Skaurud, Jesse Robb, Samantha (Chad) Bernu and Melinda (Ben) DeCoursey; grandchildren McKayla, Sydney and Garrett Skaurud, Tayler, Kylee Jacob, and Jaiden Robb, Joslyn Danielson, Brad and Cloe Bernu, Natalie Webeck, John, Alex and Addisyn DeCoursey; great-granddaughter Ryker Robb; sisters Joan Lundquist and Gloria Paulsen; sister-in-laws Nancy Rizer-Schmidt and Julie Dietz; brother-in-law Dale Anderson; many nieces, nephews and extended family.

Gerald is preceded in death by his wife Darlene; parents Wayne and Mary Hastings; his infant son; brother-in-laws Lloyd Lundquist, Joel Paulsen, John “Auggie” Rizer, Ray Schmidt and Herb Dietz; nephew Bob Lundquist.

Gerald was born June 12, 1943, to Wayne and Mary Hastings in Pokegema Lake Township. He attended school in Wahkon and then in Isle where he graduated in 1961. Gerald resided in Isle after graduating and worked at the lumberyard. In 1966 Gerald enlisted into the United States Army. He served for three years, in the 39th Combat Engineer Battalion and fought in Vietnam. After his discharge from the Army he worked for a couple different places including the gas company in Onamia and the Supervalu warehouse in the Twin Cities. Gerald then purchased Wayne’s Sanitation from his mother following his father’s death in 1977. Gerald and his wife Judy had their daughter, Melinda, in December of 1979. Gerald spent a lot of time playing in his band The Country Ramblers alongside his friends, he always enjoyed singing, drumming and playing guitar. Gerald was a lifetime member of the VFW post 2816. He spent many years enjoying wagon train in Montana, POW/MIA walks around Mille Lacs, racing stock car on Friday nights and wrestling gators down in Florida, which always guaranteed he would have a good story to tell.

Gerald was remarried in March of 1993 to Darlene Robb, and they continued to operate Wayne’s Sanitation until they retired. During retirement together they enjoyed woodworking, the outdoors, gardening, taking care of their yard and watching the deer from their porch. They also loved spending time with their grandchildren, their children and their friends. Gerald always had a unique way of remembering people by giving them nicknames. Gerald will always be remembered for his generous heart, his sense of humor, and his unforgettable smile. Gerald will be greatly missed by his family and friends.