



Donald Arthur Gary

DEC 2, 1924 - MAR 14, 2015



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Donald Arthur (Don) Gary died March 14, 2015, at St. Peter's Hospital, Olympia, Washington. He was a resident of Lacey, WA, since 1998 and previously resided on Lake St. Clair for 19 years. Before moving to Thurston County in 1979, Don resided in Lakewood, WA, for 14 years.

He was born in Chicago, IL, December 2, 1924 to Jerome Arthur Gary and Vonda Eugenia (Townsend) Gary. He married Ghislaine Augusta (Ghilo) Decembry in Namur, Belgium, December 5, 1945, while serving as a Staff Sergeant in the U.S. Army during World War II. Ghilo was among the first European "war brides" to arrive in the United States in April, 1946. After 51 years of marriage, she preceded him in death in 1997.

In 1946, he was honorably discharged from the Army and returned to Chicago. After 2 ½ years of civilian life, he returned to the Army as a 2nd Lieutenant, and served continuously in the Army Finance Corps as a disbursing officer and comptroller, retiring in the grade of Lieutenant Colonel in July 1968.

Don was employed by the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services as an accounting office supervisor and fiscal manager from 1970 to 1986, retiring from State service in November 1986.

He graduated from the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma in 1962, with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree (with honors) while stationed at Fort Lewis. He later earned Masters Degrees from Boston University and from City University in Seattle.

He was a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Lacey, and the Society of Retired U.S. Army Finance Officers.

He is survived by his three sons, Daniel (Nancy) of Lacey; Stephen (Bambi Ball) of Tacoma; and Kenneth (Terri) of Lake Tapps; seven grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



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Funeral Service 1pm Saturday, March 28 in the Valley Chapel at Mountain View Funeral Home, followed by a graveside service with military honors. Viewing one hour prior to the service, at the chapel. Following the services, a reception will be held in the chapel.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the American Red Cross.



Tribute Wall

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MK

Mary Kruzich posted:

Will miss uncle Dons smile. We are thinking of all of you and our prayers are with you. Love Ray and Mary Kruzich

March 28 at 3:02 AM



Anonymous sent a Cherished Memories - All White to the Gary family.



March 24 at 8:26 AM

LW

Larry And Margaret Wilkinson posted:

To Ken and Family, In this journey of life we are proud to have known your dad. Don brought us a lot of good times, playing cards and eating at each other's homes. He always made you feel welcome with his quiet smile, thoughtful approach and firm handshake. We enjoyed receiving his Christmas cards for years. What will comfort you are the good memories you shared with him. Friends, Larry and Margaret Wilkinson Steilacoom

March 23 at 8:32 AM

KG

Kevin Gary shared an album called **Donald Gary's Album**.



March 19 at 11:11 AM

AH

Art Hudtloff posted:

Don was good man and a good friend. We played bridge together with his wife Ghilo, and also enjoyed playing golf together. We have been to many parties together and always been good Friends. He will be missed by every one that knew him. Art Hudtloff

March 21 at 3:50 AM



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Dea Cooper posted:

I first met Mr. Gary out at their lake property at a summer party. I am friends with his son Dan and Nancy Gary and their boys (great family), who had invited my husband and I. We ate, karaoked and drank, it was a wonderful party. I work for the Army and could tell immediately that Mr. Gary was a retired Military man. His facial expressions alone could get you to stand at attention. I shared a few meals with him at Dan and Nancy's house, and I was honored to meet the man that held the name "The Donald" before Donald Trump did. You were a loved man Mr. Gary. Dea Cooper

March 19 at 11:11 AM



Kevin Gary shared 15 photos to the **Donald Gary's Album** album.

March 21 at 5:08 PM





Media

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Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Donald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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