



## Andris Zirnis

December 29, 2012

### Obituary of Andris Zirnis

Andris (Andy) I. Zirnis, 70, The Villages, FL, died Saturday morning, December 29, 2012. Mr. Zirnis was born in Riga, Latvia. He was an Army veteran and a supervisor at Steelcase Office Manufacturing in Grand Rapids, Michigan for 28 years, before moving to The Villages in 2006. He loved golfing with his buddies, bowling, working as a starter at Cane Garden, playing Samba and other games with good friends, but most of all his family. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, daughters Alida Blevins, Lovington, VA; Aimee (Chris) Derylo, Downer's Grove, IL; Angela (Jason) Allard, Grand Rapids, MI; sister Aija (Dennis) Baltzersen and brother Ed (Adele) Zirnis. Mr. Zirnis has six grandchildren, 3 nephews, and one niece.

Services will be held Thursday, Jan. 3, 2013 at Beyers Funeral Chapel in Lady Lake with a visitation from 2-3 PM followed by a memorial service at 3 PM. Rev. Canon Bill Squire will officiate. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Cornerstone Hospice- 601 Casa Bella, The Villages, FL 32162.

# Tribute Wall

NM

“ My most vivid memory of Andy is when I was sitting and chatting with Sharon at their home in Spanish Trails. I surmised that Andy was not home when I said at the end of my "speech," "I just don't understand men"! Andy came out of the back of the house and said "What's to understand? Bring beer and come naked." I laughed so hard. His humorous response to me kept me in a great mood all day long and even some days afterward. Eugene and I will miss Andy.

Nancy Martin - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Our thoughts, prayers and condolences to Sharon from their long time friends in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Ginny and Dave MacDonald - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ Sharon--My prayers and my heart goes out to you for your lost of Andy. I will always remember our good times together and a friend who was always there for everyone. I am sorry I wasn't able to make Andy's service but I know in my heart that Bill Squire sent Andy to heaven in style!!! Your Friend Always!!! Love Gus

Gus Gustafson - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JJ

“ We are so sorry for your alls loss and we are praying for you all. RIP Uncle Andy you will be missed and forever in our hearts. Gone but never forgotten.

Jean, Pam, Robin and Janene - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

V1

“ Sharon & Family, We are so sorry to hear of Andy's passing. We will always remember his sweet and smiling face at our 50th Reunion. We were so happy to see you both there. Our prayers will be with you and your family during this very difficult time. Love, Your Fellow Classmates

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**VINE GROVE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1962** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ We're so sorry about Andy's death; we'll be thinking about the family in your sorrow. We remember when Aimee and Bob were such good friends at East Kentwood. We're glad Andy enjoyed his retirement (sounds like a good six years in Florida); Andy and I were both fortunate to work at Steelcase in the good years (60's, 70's,80's). All three of our sons and a daughter-in-law work in Engineering at Steelcase now, and it's just not the same company. The bonus is not automatic, and the company is just an ordinary employer. Their summer jobs at Steelcase were outstanding...helped a lot in paying for college.

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**John and Char Battey** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MR

“ My wife Sandra and I first met Andy and Sharon in the fall of 1992. I had taken a temporary assignment from my position working for Steelcase in California to serve the company in Grand Rapids. Andy and I served on the same project team and what was a temporary job assignment led us to a 20 year friendship. While Sandra and I lived in Grand Rapids for 9 months, we spent many occasions with Andy and Sharon. We would go to dinner, music concerts, or just spend time together in one another's home. We traveled together numerous times, to Toronto, the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia, Death Valley here in California. We were looking forward to traveling to the Napa Valley area last fall when Andy was diagnosed and the trip had to be cancelled. Fortunately, we were able to travel to Florida in December to visit Andy and Sharon and to see the wonderful Villages community. Andy was a trusted and valued friend. His word was his bond and he loved to have a good time. One weekend while I was working in Grand Rapids, Sandy had flown home to California. Having a free weekend I volunteered to help another team member cut a road into some wooded property he owned north of Grand Rapids. The next Monday Andy brought in a video tape of a Monty Python skit featuring lumberjacks. You can find it posted on Youtube and it was and is still hilarious. He had us all laughing for sure. For a while, the other team member and I were tagged "the lumberjacks". Lest you think I let this go without a response, I can assure you I played a few tricks on him as well and he enjoyed every one of them! We treasure the times we spent together over the past 20 years and will miss him terribly.

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**Michael and Sandra Reed** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

FK

“ So sorry for your loss. We both knew Andy from Steelcase.

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**Fred and Carla Kruger** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RG

*“ AUNT SHARON UNCLE ANDY AND YOU HAVE BEEN GREAT  
ROLE MODELS IN OUR LIFE WE WILL MISS HIM WE LOVE YOU  
BOTH YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS GAIL*

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**RODDY AND GAIL GOODE** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BJ

*“ Andy always had a smile on his face and a kind word for everyone. I  
am proud to call Andy a friend. We will all miss him. God bless!!!*

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**Buddy Johnson** - October 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM