



Gerald Owens

April 22, 1943 - November 10, 2015

Obituary of Gerald Owens, Jr.

Gerald Owens, Jr. known to many who loved him as "Gerry" passed away on Tuesday, November 10th, 2015. Gerald, Jr. was born on April 22, 1943 in Chicago, Illinois to Gerald, Sr. and Lillian Owens. He attended school on the South side of Chicago until he enlisted in the Air Force in 1960. After serving in the Air Force for 4 years, he returned to Chicago to attend college and work various jobs. Gerald started his career with the 3M Company in 1967. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1986 from the University of Phoenix at Denver. He received several honors and promotions throughout his career at 3M. He retired from 3M in 2001 after working as a Service Manager and Trainer and Human Resource Manager.

In addition to being extremely capable and intelligent, Gerald was mechanically inclined. He loved working on projects around his house and others as well. He had a natural curiosity and desire to keep learning about new things his entire life. Gerald was a true Renaissance man. He was an enthusiastic handyman and gardener; he was up to date on all the latest technologies and gadgets; he was a meticulous financial planner; and he could converse about the latest social and political issues with an intelligence and thoughtfulness which could inspire lively debates.

Gerald touched many lives through his working and retired life. He loved his friends and family as he loved himself. He was an honest, fair and generous man. Gerald was a great example of responsibility, reliability and dependability to his children and grandchildren who fondly referred to him as "Grandpa Gerald." He left this world in a manner full of grace and dignity.

Gerald, Jr. was preceded in death by his mother Lillian, his father Gerald Sr. and daughter Camille. Gerald Jr. is survived by his wife of 50 years, Arlene; 2 children, Lynne and Anthony; six grandchildren, Kamilah, Kira, Lemuel II, Cory, Shaelyn and Aaron; brother Mike(Denise) and sister Kathy(Charles); and host of nieces and nephews.

The family sincerely thanks everyone for their condolences, kind words, prayers and support in this difficult time.

Online condolences may be left at www.beyersfuneralhome.com

Arrangements entrusted to Beyers Funeral Home and Crematory, Lady Lake, FL

Tribute Wall

LC

“ Dear Arlene, Just found out about Gerry's passing and wanted to offer my condolences. I don't know if you remember me but I worked worked with Gerry at 3M in Chicago. He was one of the first to befriend me when I started there in 1969. Whenever we had meetings I always felt Gerry was the smartest one in the room, regardless of how many managers and executives were there. He was a great guy and I am fortunate to have known him. Be well and may G-D bless you and your family. Lyle

Lyle Coren - November 28, 2016 at 12:00 AM

PO

“ I was hired by Gerry at 3M BPSI , 500 n. Michigan, Chicago on April 12, 1972. This was my first full-time job after graduating from DeVry technical school. Even though I only had an average test score, Gerry liked the fact that I already knew a lot about 3M, and I worked there until 1987 when my division went to Lanier. I worked for 34 years straight until retiring in 2006. After Gerry left Chicago I would sometimes run into him at the 3M technical Training Center in St Paul. We rode a chartered bus from the Radisson St Paul to the Training Center and return after class. Gerry and I would often talk about the good times in Downtown Chicago. I will always remember him as the person who gave me my first full-time job. He was a good leader and friend and I wish I could have communicated with him before his passing.

Philip Oellrich - November 26, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Dear Arlene and Family, I was so saddened when I read of Gerald's passing in the Daily Sun. I worked with him a bit at 3M while I was in Austin. When we met we discovered we were both from Chicago and had played High School football about the same time. I shared I had once played against Dick Butkus at CVS and he shared he was on that team!! Such a small world. He was a wonderful person and was so well suited for his HR role. I was glad to have met you and him a year or so ago here in The Villages. My prayers and heart go out to you and your family for your loss. He was truly one of the real good guys.

Ron Dexter - December 07, 2015 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Arlene - we are so sorry about Jerry. You two were the best neighbors. Thinking of you.

Scott and Christine Larson - December 06, 2015 at 12:00 AM



“ Gerald Owens

December 03, 2015 at 12:00 AM