



## Dr. Gene A. Loftis

February 5, 2013

Dr. Gene A. Loftis, 84, of Cape Girardeau, MO, passed from death to eternal life at the Missouri Veteran's Home in Cape Girardeau on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 after a long battle with Lymphoma and Parkinson's Disease. He was born August 27, 1928 in Ada, OK to Marroll F. and Ruth Gladys Sterling Loftis. Gene graduated from Lorenzo High School in Lorenzo, Texas. In 1946 at age 17, he joined the U.S. Navy CB's serving in the South Pacific. He and Delma J. Loftis met and married December 22, 1950 while attending East Central University at Ada, Oklahoma. Gene received his B.S. in Education in 1952 from East Central University at Ada. He received his M.Ed. and Doctorate from the University of Oklahoma, Norman. Gene taught business in the Oklahoma City Public Schools from 1953 to 1957. From 1957 to 1967 he served as an Associate Professor at the University of Central Oklahoma at Edmond. In 1967, Dr. Loftis moved to Cape Girardeau as Head of Department, Professor of Business Administration and Business Education of Southeast Missouri State University. In 1970 to 1976 he served as Chairman of the Division of Practical and Fine Arts: Head of the Department and Professor of Business Administration and Business Education. He became the first Dean of the College of Business, Professor of Business Education of Southeast Missouri State University from 1976 to 1982. He then returned to the classroom and served as Professor of Business Education and Office Administration. Dr. Loftis was a member of Bethany Baptist Church. Throughout his life he taught Sunday School to boys and men of all ages. He

was an ordained Deacon since the age of 32. His greatest joy was distributing Bibles through the Gideon Ministry. After his retirement Gene served as a missionary teaching business at a college in China and went to Brazil to help build 2 churches. Gene believed that the greatest thing that a Christian can do is to tell a lost person the Good News of Jesus Christ. Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Delma of Cape Girardeau, MO Daughter - Pamela (Jim) Lowes, Edmond, OK Daughter - Jonalyn (Parker) Zimmerman, Springfield, MO Son - Randall (Robin) Loftis, Ft. Worth, TX Grandchild - Janelle (Soni) Castillo, Joplin, MO Grandchild - Patrice Lowes, Oklahoma City, OK Grandchild - Ryan (Amy) Zimmerman, Dallas, TX Grandchild - Lauren (Alex) Skelton, Jackson, MO Grandchild - Allison Loftis, Ft. Worth, TX Grandchild - Jared Loftis, Ft. Worth, TX Great Grandchild - Loralie Castillo Great Grandchild - Ethan Castillo Great Grandchild - Everett Skelton Brother - Walter (Joan) Loftis, Reedley, CA Brother - Don (Judy) Loftis, Ft. Worth, TX Sister - Pat (Ben) Herrell, Ft. Smith, AR He was preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Bob Loftis. Visitation will be from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM on Thursday, February 7, 2013 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home in Cape Girardeau. Funeral service will be at 10:00 AM on Friday, February 8, 2013 at Bethany Baptist Church in Cape Girardeau with the Dr. Shawn Wasson officiating. Burial will follow at Bloomfield Veteran's Cemetery in Bloomfield, MO. with full military rites conducted by the Missouri Honor Guard. Memorial contributions may be given to Siteman Cancer Center, Southeast Health Cancer Center, Parkinsons Disease Research, Missouri Veterans Home, or Bethany Baptist Church. Online condolences may be made at [www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com). Ford & Sons Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall

VC

“ To Mrs. Delma, Randy, and the rest of the Loftis family - It is with great sadness to learn of Dr. Gene's passing. He was a very kind man who gave of himself more than most. Heaven just grew a little sweeter....May God grant you peace and comfort in the days ahead.

Victoria Holt Courvoisier - December 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ I was very sad to learn that Dr. Loftis had passed. He was a brilliant professor and wonderful person. My sympathy to family and friends.

Deborah Bryant Weaver - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DW

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Deborah Bryant Weaver - October 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

VH

“ Joni so sorry to read of your fathers passing. Heaven has received a great man! Please know you and your family are our prayers.  
Vicki

Vicki Ellis Hensley - September 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Our sincere sympathy to the Dr. Gene Loftis family on his passing. Gene was one of the first people we met when joining Southeast Missouri State University in 1987. He was a true professional and a person who truly cared for the success and well-being of others. He will be missed.

Dr. Stanley & Jane Stough - August 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ *Delma, My wife and I are Fl. this winter, but want to send our condolences to you and your family over the loss of Dr. Gene. It is my hope that my, and many others, respect for you both will be of some comfort to you. John and Judy Holcomb*

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**John K. Holcomb,MD** - August 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ *Mrs. Loftis and Family-- You have my sincere sympathy at the passing of Dr. Loftis. I earned my degree in business education while Dr. Loftis was the Department Chair. It was my privilege to work in his office for one of those years. He was always so kind and patient. I had the utmost respect for him.*

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**Brenda Schlimpert McCowan** - August 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

JS

“ *Gene Loftis was a kind, caring gentleman and I am proud to call him friend. He always greeted me with a smile and we always had time for a visit. I treasure his friendship and cherish his memory.*

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**Jane Cooper Stacy** - July 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

LO

“ *Our sympathy and prayers in the passing of Gene. He was a wonderful dedicated Christian and good friend and neighbor.*

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**Lee and Mary Olson** - July 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Follow your hearts at this time of loss, Loftis Family. When my father died, it helped us to recall fond, humorous memories of his life, allowing us to laugh through the tears. Many prayers are with you at this time. In Christ, Deborah

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**Deborah Cooper-Hoeller** - July 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DG

“ Sending our love and prayers to all of you. The Obituary was beautiful and showed what a full life Uncle Gene was blessed with. Rest in Peace, Uncle Gene, you will be missed.

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**Debbie & Steve Kay & Girls** - July 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DS

“ Many great memories from my childhood with Gene. He will be in my prayers.

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**Danny Smith** - July 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ My sincere condolences to all of the Loftis family.

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**Ralph D. Chastain** - June 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ My sincere condolences to all of the Loftis family.

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**Ralph D. Chastain** - June 02, 2013 at 12:00 AM