



## Gerald Sanford McDougall

November 24, 1945 - March 6, 2017

Gerald Sanford McDougall, 71, passed away peacefully on March 5, 2017 while comfortably watching CNN and waiting to meet a dear friend for dinner. He passed so peacefully we are certain it was from natural causes and not from the reporting of the current political climate.

Gerry was born November 24, 1945 in Berkeley, CA. (joining big brother Robert Duncan McDougall) to Arthur and Era Bell (Sandy) McDougall. After graduating from California State University - Chico, he received his PhD from Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, CA. After a brief stint in the Army he served the students of Wichita State University for 19 years as a professor of Economics. He came to Southeast Missouri State in 1993 as the Dean of the Harrison College of Business.

Gerry was deeply loved by so many including his family and esteemed colleagues, both of which he would have said were better, smarter and prettier than him.

The love of his life, Karen Lynn Hudgens, is not only a devoted wife of 48 years but also a travel buddy, fellow foodie and constant reminder to shut the refrigerator door.

He was especially proud of his two daughters, Bryn (George) Wilson and

Kristin (Brian) Grupas. This might surprise some knowing all that he did at SEMO like starting the MBA and Masters of Organization Behavior programs, establishing the Center of Economic Research and Development and helping establish the Catapult Creative House. For all these accomplishments he would have downplayed his role and given credit to those working with him. It might also surprise some that the curmudgeon look he sometimes gave had absolutely no impact on the adoring 5 grandkids, all of whom loved their "Grumpy" beyond belief. Yes, they called him "Grumpy". And yes, he was wrapped around all their tiny little fingers.

If you are still reading this and happened to know Gerry then you know he is wildly unimpressed that it is taking this long to simply state how very loved and greatly missed he will be. So, in his own words, "Enough. Everything is going to be ok".

Visitation will be 4-7pm Thursday, March 9, 2017 and the funeral will be Friday, March 10 at 10am. Both will be at Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Chapel. There will be a reception following the funeral from noon to 3pm at the Robert A. Dempster Hall Atrium on the campus of Southeast Missouri State University. All memorials should be sent to the Southeast Missouri State University Foundation.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 9. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1313  
info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

## Memorial Service

MAR 10. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home  
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701  
(573) 334-1313  
info@fordandsonsfuneralhome.com  
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

# Tribute Wall

FS

“ Karen, Ruth and I want express our condolences. We became aware of his death this morning from Bill Gathings on California. His 'brief stint" in the Army gave us a ton of memories that we still talk about. Next time Bill and I get together we'll have a beer (German, of course) in his honor. Best to you. Frank and Ruth Steponaitis

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**Frank Steponaitis** - June 01, 2017 at 08:15 AM

BC

“ The opportunity to work in Harrison Business College was the highlight of my career. What an Extraordinary Leader and Example to me. Brenda Harper Castleman

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**Brenda Harper Castleman** - March 12, 2017 at 01:53 PM

LW

“ We were deeply saddened to hear of Gerry's passing. He was a GREAT boss and a significant influence for good in our lives. We will miss him a great deal.

*Lisa and Joseph Wen*

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**Lisa & Joseph Wen** - March 11, 2017 at 04:34 PM

GB

“ To the McDougall family, my condolences. I was a student of Gerry's and later became a friend. He was a smart, witty and kind man and he will be missed.

*Gregg Billmeyer, class of 83'*

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**Gregg Billmeyer** - March 11, 2017 at 12:09 PM

DM

“ To the Family of Dr. Gerald McDougall: I wanted to let you know that I was deeply saddened to learn of the loss of your love one. I would like to express my heartfelt sympathy to you all. I had the opportunity to work with Dr. McDougall when I was the Director of the Upward Bound Program at Southeast. He afforded the students of the program an opportunity to be a part of the College of Business. He was blessed with so many God Given Talents. His daily interactions with individuals from all walks of lives was one of his greatest assets. He was someone that wanted everyone to achieve their maximum potential. I am so thankful that our paths crossed while I was at Southeast and so grateful for the many contributions he gave to Southeast, the Cape Girardeau community, students, faculty, staff, family and others.. His legacy will live on through each and everyone of us. We are praying for you Karen along with your daughters, son in-laws, grandchildren and other family members. Remember that God will never leave or forsake you. Joy will come in the morning and know that you were truly blessed to be his wife for close to 5 decades. Love you and keep the faith.

*Debra Mitchell-Braxton*

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**Debra Mitchell-Braxton** - March 10, 2017 at 01:56 PM

NB

“ Richard and I want to express our sorrow at the passing of Gerry. We both knew him at Wichita State University. He had a great sense of humor and always tried to help people.

*Nancy and Richard Bereman*

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**Nancy Bereman** - March 10, 2017 at 09:46 AM

SH

“Gerry was the best Dean that Firooz ever worked with during his time at Southeast. He was a true friend and mentor. He was such a remarkable man and a guiding force, not only for the College of Business, but for our community. Much love to Karen, Bryn and Kristin and family.” Susan Hekmat

Susan Hekmat - March 09, 2017 at 09:17 PM



“Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.



March 09, 2017 at 11:54 AM



“Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.



March 09, 2017 at 11:26 AM

MM

“ To the "earlier" days. Three upstart families in Wichita Kansas. Gerry, the rising, often publicized air industry economist; Karen, the home economics guru who provided hot meals; Rick, the star middle school administrator; Connie, the fastest and funniest speed skater; Alix, the extraordinary and highly sought after art teacher; and Mark, the IBM salesman. An unlikely six some, rooted in love for each other and what the future would hold. Memories of Thanksgiving dinners at Gerry's and Karen's, knowing our thanks would be laced with self (and OK, other) depreciating humor.

*Alix and I think of Gerry much this way. Such a smart, modest man. Devoted to his family (can't remember how many bounces under the streetlight it took to get Bryn to sleep!), devoted to his friends, devoted and in touch with his students, and always, always, devoted to Karen. A gifted man, who mentored and inspired many. I'll always remember Gerry telling us that he would never retire. Why should he? He loved education, he loved his university, and he loved his life. And, as was often the case with Gerry, when he set an objective, he completed it. Take for example, point to point destinations :-)*

*So, my friend of friends, rest in peace. You more than accomplished what you set out to do; with unerring integrity. And along the way, you brought much fun and enlightenment to all who you knew, but especially to the Wichita six...and we will forever be in your debt.*

*Much love to Karen, Bryn and Kristin. Your loss is our loss, but more importantly, we share with you the remarkable memories and the inspiring life of Gerald McDougall.*

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**Mark Morin** - March 09, 2017 at 06:20 AM

JH

“ When I was an employee at Southeast University I always heard how supportive Dean McDougall was of his faculty and staff in the Harrison College of Business. He was well respected by all who knew him. He will be missed. Joe Huskey

Joe Huskey - March 09, 2017 at 12:51 AM

LW

“ I had the pleasure of picking him up and taking him to the search committee meeting on his first visit to Cape Girardeau. We became friends immediately. He was a great leader for the College of Business. Our College of Business and the entire University community benefited from his many outstanding qualities. He made the College of Business great.

Linda Wiggs - March 08, 2017 at 03:47 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.



March 08, 2017 at 03:43 PM

LF

“ Love, Rick & Connie Fitzgerald purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.



Love, Rick & Connie Fitzgerald - March 08, 2017 at 12:53 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.*



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March 08, 2017 at 10:46 AM



“ *Starrett Family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.*



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**Starrett Family** - March 08, 2017 at 10:43 AM



“ *Gerry was a great mentor and friend to us both. From the international student dinners, to travel to Southeast Asia, to navigating the intricacies of higher ed leadership. We are forever indebted and will always remember him fondly. Thanks Gerry!*

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**Dave Starrett** - March 08, 2017 at 09:47 AM



“ *love, mark and alix purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.*



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**love, mark and alix** - March 08, 2017 at 08:44 AM

DS

“ Gerry McDougall was a true friend, mentor, and the best Dean I ever worked with during my academic career. I fondly remember our trip to China in 1995 and the signing of a formal academic cooperation agreement with the Hangzhou Institute of Electronics Engineering. We enjoyed the China adventure and the great eel cuisine we ate on a daily basis.

Gerry was a gracious person who was liked and respected by all people he had contact with in his daily endeavors. We send heartfelt condolences and sympathy to his family. A special person like Gerry will never be forgotten.

*Stanley & Jane Stough*

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**Dr. Stanley J. Stough** - March 08, 2017 at 07:22 AM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.



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March 07, 2017 at 11:47 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Gerald Sanford McDougall.



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March 07, 2017 at 11:42 PM