



## Gordon R. Spencer

March 5, 1936 - August 10, 2015

Gordon R. Spencer, 79, of Cape Girardeau, died in his home on August 10, 2015.

He was born March 5, 1936 in Cortland, Ohio, son of Reed and Hazel Spencer.

He married Fay Looney of East Prairie, Missouri on September 15, 1962 in Merced, California.

Gordon served three years in the Marine Corp and twenty-three years in the Air Force, retiring in 1980 with the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. During his military career he was stationed in Japan, Greenland, Labrador, Vietnam, England, Guam and multiple assignments in the U.S. He was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for service in Vietnam; the Joint Service Commendation Medal for participating in the Indochina Refugee Relief Program during the fall of Saigon while stationed on Guam; and the Meritorious Service Medal for outstanding service while assigned to the 318th Fighter Interceptor Squadron and numerous other awards and citations.

After retiring from the military, he worked as the first Chief of Security at West Park Mall. After three years there, he went to work at Proctor and Gamble as a line technician, retiring in 1997.

During his life, he and his wife served the Lord faithfully together wherever they lived; working in the church, teaching Sunday School, and being an example to his family and community. Gordon enjoyed writing poetry for family and friends and many of his poems were published in the local newspaper.

Survivors include his wife, Fay; daughter, Dr. Glenna Sumner and son-in-law Dennis of Martin, Tennessee; granddaughter, Erin Leigh Sumner; daughter, Darla Gavin and son-in-law Douglas of St. Louis, Missouri; brother, Richard Spencer of Warren, Ohio; sister, Virginia Stein of Cortland, Ohio.

He was preceded in death by his parents; three brothers and two sisters.

Visitation will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, August 14, 2015 at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral. The funeral will follow at 1:00 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Military services will follow at the graveside at Fairmont Cemetery.

Memorial contributions may be sent to The Wounded Warrior Project.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairmont Cemetery

835 Caruthers  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**AUG 14.** 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

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

## Service

**AUG 14.** 1:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall

DA

“ Hello to all of the Sarge's family. I am sure none of you have ever heard of me but I had the privilege and honor of working closely with the Sarge when we were both stationed with the 79th TFS at Woodbridge England back in 68/69 era. We were both weapons men, he working on the flightline and I up in the Weapons Release shop at the hanger. During those years I worked for him on many projects and aircraft on the flightline. He was always an easy friend while remaining a valuable supervisor and personnel manager. He signed off on several of my personnel evaluation with some very good comments.

A year or so ago I was surprised one afternoon when I received a phone call from the Sarge. I didn't recognize his voice right off but as soon as he said he was Msgt. Spencer from the 79th, I recognized him right off. We talked a while and he told me he was fighting a tough battle with some physical and medical issues. I had hoped that he would be able to attend a reunion of several men from the 79th, of those years, at Wright-Patterson AFB last summer but he said he would not be able but wished us well. I wished him well too. It is sad for me to see such a valuable person leave us so soon in life but I also understand it. I know I am speaking for many men of the 79th, and probably for many other organizations as well, as I say THANK YOU Master Sergeant Spencer, for the leadership, friendship and direction you gave and shared with us. Rest in Peace old friend.

Dan Aycock, (Ssgt, 79th TFS)  
2405 S, 3rd Ave  
Walla Walla, Wa. 99362

---

Dan Aycock - November 01, 2015 at 10:10 PM

NJ

“ Paul and I first met Gordon at West Park Mall when Paul was manager at Gospeland. Later in church. So good with our kids and so loving and hospitable. Touched base on and off as our paths would intersect. Always felt like we were with friends as kind and loving as family. A great guy who will be missed. Prayers and hugs to Faye, daughters and families.

---

**nancy johnson** - August 15, 2015 at 10:04 PM

JS

“ Dear Fay and Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. While I was not around Gordon often growing up I have great memories of him and his kindness as a child. By extension Grandma kept us up to date in telling us all the wonderful things Gordon and you did for her. She was so proud of him and your beautiful family. As I recall Gordon, I take great comfort in a song performed by Danny Davis "Well Done My Child". In my heart I know that's the first thing the Lord said in greeting Gordon. God Bless You.  
Jerre Spencer and Family

---

**Jerre Spencer** - August 14, 2015 at 09:51 AM

RT

“ Darla and Doug, our deepest sympathies go out to you and your family. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

*Mark & Rebeca Thornhill*

---

**Rebeca Thornhill** - August 14, 2015 at 09:42 AM

PL

“ As good friends of Darla and Doug's, we are so deeply sorry for your loss of your dear husband, father, grandfather, family man, and friend. What an amazing life and precious saint! Please know of our prayers and deepest sympathy. Sincerely, Greg and Polly Lundberg, St. Louis.

---

**Polly Lundberg** - August 13, 2015 at 07:07 PM

TB

“ Glenna, you and your family are in my thoughts and praying during this time of loss.  
Tenna Bynum

---

**Tenna Bynum** - August 13, 2015 at 03:56 PM

TG

“ Tom and I met Gordon and Fay in 1986 the year our son Doug married their daughter Darla. An infectious smile and warm welcome always greeted you when you were lucky enough to be blessed with a good time together with Gordon and Fay. We are sad for our loss of this gentle, Christian man from our lives. But we rejoice in the knowledge that God has him in his loving arms. Our love and prayers will continue to be with Fay, and all the family.

---

**Tom & Freda Gavin** - August 13, 2015 at 03:10 PM

JF

“ Jerry Riggins and family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Gordon R. Spencer.



---

**Jerry Riggins and family** - August 13, 2015 at 12:24 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gordon R. Spencer.*



August 13, 2015 at 12:21 PM



“ *I had the wonderful privilege to serve with Gordon & Fay at both Red Star & Cape County Cowboy church. I'm sure that GOD welcomed Gordon home with a hearty 'well done, my good & faithful servant.' My prayers are with your family.*

**Janice Ham** - August 13, 2015 at 07:34 AM



*I so totally agree with you Janice.*

**nancy johnson** - August 15, 2015 at 10:06 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gordon R. Spencer.*



August 12, 2015 at 03:41 PM