



Harold Lee Gerlach

July 16, 1928 - April 12, 2016

The organic garden world in Cape Girardeau lost one of their finest upon the death of leading tomato grower, Harold Lee Gerlach, 87, on Tuesday, April 12, 2016.

He was born to Paul G and Hattie Maevers Gerlach in rural Cape Girardeau on July 16, 1928. Baptized at Trinity Lutheran Church in Egypt Mills, MO, confirmed at Trinity Lutheran in Cape in 1942, and graduated College High School in 1946. He worked as a meat cutter for Krogers for over 40 years.

Harold served in the US Army during the Korean conflict in Okinawa 1950-1952. On June 27, 1954 he married Maxine McLain at Trinity, Egypt Mills. She survives.

Harold and Maxine were blessed with 2 sons: Rob (Joan) in Austin, TX; Terry (Kim) in Cape. Two brothers: Bob (Dora Jean), and Paul D. (Mary) both in Cape. Harold dearly loved his family, including grandchildren: Terry Lee Gerlach, Poplar Bluff; Daniel (Marcie), Austin, TX; Tyler Gerlach (Megan), Cape; Brian Gerlach, Houston, TX; Lori Gerlach, Austin, TX; and Travis Gerlach (Veda), Cape. One great-grandson, Nathan Gerlach, Austin, TX. Nephews, nieces... and cousins galore.

Camping, fishing, and hunting were among his favorite outdoor sports, but

researching the latest, greatest tomato plants and keeping the varmints away from the garden and fruit orchard were a passion. He kept much of Cape Girardeau eating tomatoes. Thursday night card games and Hanover Lutheran's sausage suppers were also activities he enjoyed.

Visitation will be Friday, April 15, 2016 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Funeral Home. Funeral services will be Saturday, April 16, 2016 at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home with Rev. Tony Kobak officiating.

Entombment with military honors will follow at Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum.

Memorials may be given to Hanover Lutheran building fund or Saxony Lutheran High School.

Cemetery Details

Cape County Memorial Park Cemetery

2315 Highway 61 North
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-1909
<https://www.fordandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 15. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Service

APR 16. 10:00 AM (CT)

Ford & Sons Mt. Auburn Chapel
1001 N. Mt. Auburn Rd.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Tribute Wall

JB

“ Dear Maxine and all your dear family, we extend our sympathies to you on the death of Harold. We will miss visiting with him when you came to Texas to visit Rob and his family. You are blessed in knowing that he is in Heaven with is Lord and we pray His comfort and peace on all of you! You have been in our thoughts and prayers.

Love and Blessings -

John and Mary Ann Brown

John and Mary Ann Brown - April 17, 2016 at 09:55 PM



“ Spring Has Sprung Mixed Basket was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Gerlach.



April 15, 2016 at 10:28 AM

AC

“ We lived in the rental home next to the Gerlach's. The most kindest people you will ever meet. I completely understand Harold's passion for his garden and trying to keep all the critters out. He spent hours and hours out in the back yard. He will be missed. Maxine you will be in our thoughts and prayers!

Angie and Ben Colbert

Angie Colbert - April 15, 2016 at 09:30 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Gerlach.*



April 14, 2016 at 04:35 PM



“ *The Gerlach family is special to the Schroder family.
The Peace of the Lord be with you all!*

Pastor Dave and Sandy Schroder

David Schroder - April 14, 2016 at 12:38 PM



“ *May the Lord be with you in the days to come, and in all of your days leading up to a triumphal resurrection and victory celebration with our Lord in our Heavenly Home....*

*Mike Gallagher
IIM Pastor
Christ, Gordonville*

...longtime friend of Robin from school...

Mike Gallagher - April 14, 2016 at 11:33 AM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Harold Lee Gerlach.*



April 14, 2016 at 10:40 AM



“ *We have truly enjoyed our many years of friendship. Our camping trips - especially the one to Sam-A-Baker Park, and our many nights of playing cards.*

*Those we love don't go away,
They walk beside us every day,
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.*

Bob & Shirley Busche

Bob & Shirley Busche - April 14, 2016 at 10:32 AM



Mr. and Mrs. Gerlach were friends of my parents when I was growing up, and I remember Mr. Gerlach as being a kind and gentle man who treated everyone with respect and who always had a smile on his face. I'm so sorry to have missed the services and offer my condolences to his family.

Patti Lincecum Miinch - April 17, 2016 at 04:50 PM