



## Merle Gelsheimer

February 11, 1931 - July 13, 2024

Merle Edwin Gelsheimer, 93, of Cape Girardeau passed away Saturday, July 13, 2024, at his residence.

Merle was born Feb. 11, 1931, in Springfield to the late Henry and Mora Cain Gelsheimer.

He was a 1949 graduate of Central High School in Springfield and then served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War from 1951 to 1953. He was honorably discharged and returned home to Springfield.

There he worked in the grocery business and met Shirley Fae Maggi. The two were married in August 1958. Their union blessed them with four children: David, Jan, Laura and Cheryl.

Merle owned and operated several grocery stores in the Heartland. He was a hardworking businessman who enjoyed working. He also enjoyed golfing, playing cards and being with family.

Merle was a member of LaCroix Church in Cape Girardeau.

In addition to his loving wife of 65 years, Merle is survived by three children, David (Tara) Gelsheimer of Benton, Laura (Russ) Gant of West Plains and

Cheryl Cooper of Farmington, Arkansas; seven grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren; brother, Ronald Gelsheimer of Springfield; and sister, Trula Shipman of Joplin.

He was preceded in death by his parents and daughter, Jan Slusher.

Visitation for the family will be from noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 17, at Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum.

The funeral service will follow at 1 p.m. in the mausoleum, officiated by Steve Vester, chaplain for Crown Hospice.

Memorial contributions may be made to Crown Hospice.

Ford and Sons Mount Auburn Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Sympathy messages can be sent to the family by visiting [fordandsonsfuneralhome.com](http://fordandsonsfuneralhome.com).

# Cemetery Details

**Cape County Memorial Park**

## Previous Events

### Visitation

JUL 17. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum  
2315 Highway 61 N  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

### Funeral Service

JUL 17. 1:00 PM (CT)

Cape County Memorial Park Mausoleum  
2315 Highway 61 N  
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ I have just heard of your loss, and wanted to send late condolences to the family. I have so many fond memories of your time and our friendship in Rolla.  
Joyce Darr

Joyce Darr - November 23, 2024 at 12:36 AM

PW

“ Pamela Sue Wood lit a candle in memory of Merle Gelsheimer



Pamela Sue Wood - July 17, 2024 at 12:32 PM

PW

I am miss you you had a good life

Pamela Sue Wood - July 17, 2024 at 12:33 PM

BV

“ Shirley I am sorry to hear about Merle. I thought he was a friendly and funny man. Jerry enjoyed playing cards with him. My thoughts are with you and the family.

Brenda Vandebrook - July 17, 2024 at 07:30 AM

PC

“ Our thoughts and prayers to all. A very loyal and valuable customer.  
The Peters Heating and Air Conditioning

Peters Heating and Air Confitioning - July 16, 2024 at 10:07 PM

AN

“ Angie Maggi and Rosie Netzer purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Merle Gelsheimer.



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**Angie Maggi and Rosie Netzer** - July 16, 2024 at 04:34 PM

...D

“ ...and Dixie purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Merle Gelsheimer.



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**...and Dixie** - July 16, 2024 at 02:36 PM

BW

“ I am so sorry for your loss, you are in my prayers

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**brad wittenborn** - July 16, 2024 at 12:58 PM

VD

“ Dear David and family,  
So sorry to read of Dads passing. He was a hardworking man and taught his family the same values. I will always remember him from when he had Stan's. Much love and prayers for comfort.



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**Vicky Dannemueller** - July 16, 2024 at 12:32 PM

JD

“ *Jimmy and Kara Dyer purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Merle Gelsheimer.*



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**Jimmy and Kara Dyer** - July 16, 2024 at 09:41 AM