



Gary L. Hightower

January 2, 2013

September 5, 1949 - January 1, 2013

Biography

Gary Lealand Hightower died January 1, 2013 at his home in Tulsa, Oklahoma after a determined battle with cancer.

Gary was born September 5, 1949 in Joplin, Missouri to Jack and Opal (Lester) Hightower. In early childhood, the family moved to Muskogee, Oklahoma where he grew up with his brothers Greg and Jerry and sister Shirley. Gary graduated from Muskogee High School in 1967.

He loved playing guitar and his children have the memories of him playing his favorites, the Eagles and Beatles .

In 1969 Gary entered the US Army. He served a tour of duty in Vietnam and was honorably discharged in 1971. He would later battle cancer related to agent orange.

He completed an AD from Bacone College in 1978 and later completed his Bachelor's degree from Northeastern State University in 1981. After working for Corning Glass in Muskogee for 17 years, he started his own outdoor carpentry company.

Gary is survived by his wife Debbie Hebb Hightower who he married in 1972. Together they had 5 children. Daughters include; Lori Edwards and husband Tracy, Jeni Felton and husband Jeff, Diana Lassiter and husband Cody. Sons include; Glyn and wife Brandy and Blake.

He greatly enjoyed his grandchildren teaching them carpentry, music and watching them grow up. All 13 include Zack, Ethan, Luke, Alex, Kali, Alea, Madi, Max, Tyler, Chloe, Kaleb, Kyle and Bella.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents and sister.

Memorial Services will be held on Friday at 1:00 pm at Serenity Funeral Home

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Memorial donation suggestions include: Infinity Hospice of Tulsa or St Jude's Hospital.

Services

Memorial

Friday, January 4, 2013 at 1:00 PM

Serenity Funeral Home Chapel

Facts

Born: September 5, 1949

Place of Birth: Joplin, MO

Death: January 1, 2013

Place of Death: Tulsa, OK

Occupation: Self-Employed Carpenter

Tribute Wall

SB

“ Gary was my friend we worked at Corning glass we rode motorbikes together.we lost contact after Corning closed And I just found out about his passing I will miss and have missed him my prayers are with his family .Gary was a family man. Steve bates My heart is broken Today. God bless Gary family

steve bates - October 17, 2020 at 04:45 PM

T)

“ The Lost Daughter (Cher) lit a candle in memory of Gary L. Hightower



the lost daughter (Cher) - May 31, 2019 at 11:07 AM

JF

“ Hi. I am so sorry! We just saw this message. I am Gary's daughter. I have very limited knowledge of his time in the service. I know he was in Phu Bai in 70-71, and I am pretty sure he worked as an/or with engineers?? Hope this is enough info to narrow it down for you. if not, I can try to get more info??. Please feel free email me @ akjif elton@gmail.com

Jeni Felton - April 15, 2014 at 06:37 PM

MM

“ Did Gary serve with the 1st MP Company of the 1st Infantry Division in Vietnam?

Michael J Much - February 01, 2014 at 11:29 PM

LB

“ Dear Debbie & family. Many years have gone by since we were backyard neighbor. I've wondered often about each of you. I'm so sorry about Gary's illness & for his death. So sorry I could not reach you before this happened.

I send my love to you. Prayers for each one, asking you to feel our Lord's presence at this sad time & as each day goes by. Look to HIm for the peace that only He can give.

*I'm still at 101 Rodman Circle, in case you are ever in Muskogee. Give me a call, 918-683-3450. How well I remember precious "little" Lori, Geni, and Glyn, plus Bubbles. Blessings to each of you.
Leonida Barker*

Leonida Barker - January 04, 2013 at 08:47 PM

JS

“ We have known Gary as a neighbor for several years. However, we are honored to have gotten to know him better this past year. We have found Gary to have a huge heart and love for life & his family.

Joe and Bobbie Sides - January 03, 2013 at 11:14 PM

CP

“ Gary was our neighbor, a finer man I have never met. He was very devoted to his family and and grandchildren.. He was very kind to all he met, was fair always and honest to a fault. Gary was the kind of man all men should aspire to be like. I will miss him very much and my life has been enriched by just knowing him. Our lord Jesus Christ will welcome him as he passes through those pearly gates, what a joyus day that will be.

Charles and Regina Portman - January 03, 2013 at 07:46 PM