



Gary Lee Runkle

February 14, 1945 - February 7, 2021

It is with great sadness that the family of Gary Runkle announce his passing on Sunday, February 7, 2021. Gary Lee Runkle (75) of Glen Burnie, Md., formerly of Annapolis, Md. and Steelton, Pa., was born Valentine's Day-February 14, 1945.

Gary was a 1963 graduate of Steelton-Highspire High School. A job opportunity with the Miller & Long Concrete Company took him to Annapolis, Md. He spent 27 years with them, starting as a hard-core iron worker before aspiring to the position of Rod Foreman. Gary was the devoted husband of Catherine (Hartman) Runkle, having been married since September 27, 1963 - 57 wonderful years. His greatest love and joy in life was his family.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Gerald Runkle and Katherine (Sellers) Runkle Rhodes; his stepfather, Arthur Lynn Rhodes, and his brother, Arthur L. Rhodes, Jr. "Butch".

In addition to his beloved wife, Catherine, Gary leaves behind his daughter, Susan Blades (who held the key to his heart) and her husband, Lenny; grandsons, Seferino Martinez (and wife, Kara) and Nicholas Martinez (who were his pride and joy); his brother William Rhodes, and brother Greg Runkle (and partner Jeff); Beloved cousins, Margaret Blanch and Kathryn Jones; as well as many cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

Gary was known as an easy-going, generous, eternally optimistic, kind-hearted man who lived by the Golden Rule. He had a unique, unforgettable laugh and a lifelong love affair with apples. Gary was actively involved as a coach with Annapolis Youth Football for many years. He was not just an avid Notre Dame football fan, but also a season ticket holder at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium where he loved cheering on the Midshipmen.

Gary enjoyed, all sports, camping in his younger years, playing cards, annual beach trips with his extended family and traveling. Among his favorite trips were those to Hawaii to see the Pearl Harbor Memorial, St. John, USVI, San Francisco & Canada with his favorite

cousins. He was happiest when vacationing or spending time with his family.

Gary will be missed but never forgotten by his loving family and friends.

Visitation will be held from 2-4pm on Saturday, February 20, 2021 at Lasting Tributes, 814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis, MD 21401. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Alzheimer's Association: 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601 or via their website Alzheimer's Association. Hopefully, someday soon this horrible disease, often called the "thief of hearts, souls and memories", will be eradicated (OR CONQUERED).

Events

FEB **Viewing** 02:00PM - 04:00PM

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Lasting Tributes Cremation & Funeral Care

814 Bestgate Road, Annapolis, MD, US, 21401

Comments



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Runkle.



February 13 at 08:39 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Runkle.



February 10 at 10:16 PM



“ I remember Gary coming to my rescue after taking a pitch to the nose over at the Elks Club. He snatched me up, carrying me all the way from the field, down the back hallway, through the bar and to the men’s room. It was a nasty mess but he calmed me down and I was ok after that...though I don’t recall if I finished the season or not. Thanks for the warmth of your friendship to our family all these decades. You’ll be missed.

Carl Cox - February 10 at 07:38 PM



“ Coach Runkle was my Favorite Football coach at the Elks !!!! I played for him on two different teams and have the utmost respect for him . He will definitely be missed ..

Chris Smith

Chris Smith - February 14 at 06:13 PM



“ Dear Cathy,
I'm so sorry to hear about loss. I also lost my husband on Feb. 5th. Praise be to
GOD.
-Esther Snowden

Esther - February 10 at 06:51 PM



“ Dear Cathy I'm sorry to hear about Gary. I remember his smile when we met for lunch at
Applebee's. My heart goes out to you and Susie and of course the boys. Prayers for all.
God Bless you Gary you will be missed. Love to the family.

Margaret Turner - February 11 at 09:00 PM