



Harvey A. Gerdes

August 31, 1930 - February 21, 2021

Harvey A. Gerdes, 90, of Lewisville, Texas, and formerly of Granite, Oklahoma, and Flint, Michigan, went home to his Lord and Savior on Sunday, February 21st, 2021 at Medical City Lewisville in Lewisville. Harvey was born on August 31st, 1930 in Flint, the son of Arthur and Erna Gerdes.

Harvey attended St. Paul Lutheran school in Flint before attending Concordia College High School in River Forest, IL. He remained at Concordia for college and graduated in 1952 with a degree in education. Harvey worked as an educator for over a decade, first at Our Redeemer Lutheran School in Jackson, MS, where he taught grades 1-6, and later at Swartz Creek High School in Michigan, where he also served as head football coach. He made his first career change in 1965 when he joined Buick as a Senior Processing Engineer.

Harvey married Katherine Cluver on December 26th, 1966 at Calvary Lutheran Church in Watseka, IL. He and Kathie lived in Flint for over 30 years, raising their children there and actively serving their church, St. Paul Lutheran. During his years at St. Paul, Harvey taught sixth grade Sunday school, led adult Bible studies, sang in the choir, and chaired the Stewardship Committee as well as the Board of Trustees and the Sunday School committee. He also served on the LCMS Michigan District Stewardship Board for several years, and was the only lay person ever elected to serve as the Chair of Stewardship

for the district. He retired from General Motors in 1992.

In 1998, Harvey embarked on his final career when he answered God's call to pastoral ministry. At the age of 68, he enrolled in Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana in the alternate route to ministry program. After two years at CTS, he was called as a Vicar to St. John's Lutheran, in Granite, Oklahoma. He was ordained as a minister of the Lutheran Church on July 22, 2001, and served as pastor of St. John's until January 2011.

Throughout his lifetime, Harvey enjoyed an impressive variety of past times, including long distance running, gardening, wood working, home improvement, and refereeing high school basketball and football games. Always curious and eager to learn new things, he taught himself (among other things) macrame, soldering, how to play the standing bass, puppetry, photography, composting, and bread making. For years, he was a season ticket holder for Michigan State football. He relished sitting in the upper deck of Spartan Stadium which gave him a bird's eye view of the field, enabling him to enjoy every detail of the game.

After retiring for the final time in 2011, Harvey moved with Kathie to Lewisville where they joined Lamb of God Lutheran Church. There he sang in the choir, made shut in calls, and attended the Lifelight Bible Study. He also led a weekly devotion at Rosewood Assisted Living in the Memory Care unit. In his later years, he remained committed to daily Bible study and prayer and also became an avid reader of history and biography.

Harvey is survived by his wife, Kathie; their children Mary (Christian) Kendrick of Charlotte, NC, Rachel (Rich) Weklar of Corinth, TX, Rev. Timothy (Amiren) Gerdes of Bonita, CA; and their grandchildren, Nathan and Ian Kendrick, Ryan and Abby Weklar, and Noah, Micah and Isaiah Gerdes. He is also survived by his daughters from his first marriage, Cheryl Morton of Colorado,

Lori (E.C.) Smith of Chandler, TX, her sons, Brian and Matthew Mitchell and their children, and many nieces, nephews, cousins and other extended family and friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, two sisters, Phyllis Faust and Doreen Thurston, and one infant daughter.

Graveside Memorial Services for Harvey are scheduled Tuesday, July 5, 2022, 10:00 A.M. at St. Johns Lutheran Cemetery in Granite, Oklahoma.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be made to the General Fund of Lamb of God Lutheran Church in Flower Mound, TX, or Mission Central at <https://www.lcms.org/make-a-gift/mission-central>.

Online condolences for Harvey can be made by visiting www.peoplescooperativefuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Harvey A. Gerdes*

October 08, 2023 at 02:10 PM



“ *Harvey A. Gerdes*

October 04, 2023 at 11:28 PM