



Gerald Gould Gunhus

January 2, 1943 - November 30, 2023

Gerald "Jerry" Gould Gunhus went to his heavenly home on Thursday, November 30 with his sweet wife Shirley by his side. How do we sum up 80 years of a man who loved Jesus, his wife, kids, grandkids, brother, sister, family, and friends and most of all his sweets... The one word that came to everyone's minds when we think of Jerry is Oreo, that's right, the Oreo cookie.

Like the layers of an Oreo, Jerry added fun and joy to life, a passion as timeless as the cookies twist, lick, and dunk ritual. His pursuit of happiness was as genuine as his love for his Oreos.

Jerry was also known as the pancake master; he flipped more than just batter. He flipped frowns into smiles by making his special Village Inn pancake recipe for anyone. Jerry also had secrets. Hidden in desk drawers, closets, garage shelving, cars, coat pockets, and other people's homes were secrets... stashes of gummy bears, Oreo cookies, and Aunt Marge's fudge. One of his favorite secrets was the pancake special...a stack of pancakes with scoop of peanut butter, topped with over-easy egg, crisp bacon and dripping with syrup.

Jerry leaves behind his wife, Shirley, married just over 60 years. Jerry and Shirley were inseparable, just like the perfect Oreo, a perfect balance of chocolate and cream.

His two sons, Greg (Cathy) and Kirk (Tammi) were not only his sons, but his

best friends. For Kirk, he was his boat driver going out almost daily to slalom ski and wake surf. The agreement to drive was the following: Gaither music was for skiing and AC/DC was for wake surfing.

For Greg, he would become Greg's employee every time he visited. Jerry would never complain about the hard, hot, work even when Greg would not give him a break. Thank goodness for wonderful customers who would feel sorry for Jerry and offer him a "lemonade", also known as Mike's hard lemonade. He was always relaxed by the time he got home.

His five grandchildren, Ben, Ashlynn, Megan, Amber and Jacob, were the ultimate Oreo filling of his life. The joy he had when he got to spend time with them was beyond anything. He was able to play his favorite game with them.... 20 questions. He always wanted to know everything that was happening in their lives.

Beyond the kitchen, his greatest pursuit, his greatest hope, and his greatest joy was the simple belief in a grace that is for everyone and is freely given. In his final chapter, Jerry left behind, not just a legacy for pancakes, but a legacy of love, service, wise counsel, and generous giving.

As we say goodbye to Jerry, let's remember him with a twist of joy, a lick of gratitude and a dunk of fun memories, like an Oreo. Remember, death has such a short sting when compared to eternity where we will all get to have another Oreo with Jerry.

A celebration of life will be held at a later date.

Cavin-Cook Funeral Home, Mooresville is proudly serving the Gunhus family.

Cemetery Details

Cavin-Cook FH & Crematory

494 E. Plaza Drive
Mooresville, NC 28115

Tribute Wall

JJ

“ In 1975 I was an intern and youth pastor at their church in Kenosha Wisconsin. Jerry and Shirley were youth advisors. They were great to work with. I ate at their Village Inn every week. Jerry gave me a Dake's Bible that I have to this day. Good memories.

Jim Johnson - October 26, 2025 at 12:51 PM

BW

“ Jerry has been a Dear, Dear friend ever since our "Young " married couples of Aurora 1st would go to his Village Inn after Sunday night services. We all looked up to Jerry and respected his Christian example, wisdom and knowledge of the Bible. He shared such wonderful ideas such as taking "Prayer walks" to spend time praying and have your thoughts centered on God.

Jerry was a dominate rebounder on our church undefeated basketball team.

*We have kept in close contact with Jerry and Shirley for over 50 years and cherished every time we were blessed by being together. Jerry has touched so many lives and is going to be deeply missed. Love and Hugs to Shirley and the family.
Barb and Norm Wilson*

Barb and Norm Wilson - December 20, 2023 at 04:17 PM

PN

“ I met Jerry and Shirley at Aurora First Assembly of God. No more caring and gentle man have I met. He always asked about my life and listened to the answer. God brought a great saint home to glory!

Philip Nielsen - December 20, 2023 at 09:52 AM

CC

“ I met Jerry and Shirley at our church about 12 years ago. I admired their faith, their wit and their love for each other. He will be missed by many. Prayers for Shirley and the family.

Cheryl Connelly - December 15, 2023 at 03:33 PM

DS

“ Jerry was my first boss back in 1975! I always looked up to him and he was a good man! Had a beautiful family and did so much for the Church they were very active in! I learned a lot from him and I looked at him like a father figure! I am sorry to hear this sad news! Rest in peace Mr Gunhus! You're a good guy and I know you are loved by many and will be deeply missed on this earth! See ya on the otherside one day! ❤️🙏❤️

Denise Hilty Stevens - December 05, 2023 at 05:10 PM

JB

“ Gerri was one of the kindest most genuine men I have had the honor to know. I know he will be missed by all that knew him. He is at peace in heaven with our Lord. Rest in peace my dear friend!

Jennifer Beverley - December 04, 2023 at 12:17 PM