



Gary Leon Beard

August 21, 1941 - August 4, 2023

Gary Leon Beard was born August 21, 1941 to the late Uel B. and Lillie Canady Beard on Mill Creek in Hickman County. He passed from this life on August 4, 2023 making his stay 81 years, 11 months and 14 days.

Gary grew up on Mill Creek and Bells Branch Church and School were important places in his early life. In 1953, they moved to a farm located on the corner of Highway 100 and Gray's Bend road in the Fairfield Community. He lived here until 1963 when he married Norma Talley and they moved across Gray's Bend road to what was affectionately called "the Troutner House." In November 1969 a daughter, Shelia Ann, was born and in October 1970 (11 months later) a son, John Howard was born. In September 1972, Gary, Norma, Shelia and John moved to a "new house" back across Grays Bend Road to be next door to Uel and Lillie. Gary and Norma lived in this house until Norma passed in September, 2022 and in June 2023, an accidental fall left Gary hospitalized until his passing.

In 1967, Levi Strauss opened a manufacturing plant in Centerville and Gary was one of the first mechanics hired. When Levi's decided to close in 1998, Gary was one of the last employees severed. He would often say he set up the machines and tore them down.

In between all of this, John began playing sports and participating in Boy

Scouts. The Boy Scouts was something that Gary could help with as well and what he enjoyed being involved with the most. He became so involved that he worked to get his certification to be an Assistant Scoutmaster. He worked alongside Scoutmaster Danny Goodpasture and Scoutmaster Steve Gregory while John worked to obtain his Eagle rank and worked with the troop for several years after. His favorite memories with the scouts were around the Appalachian trail hike that took them from North Carolina to Dalton Georgia and when the troop went to the National Jamboree in Washington D.C.

Gary was also an active leader in the church by teaching Bible class every Sunday and when John wasn't home or Brian Horner wasn't there, he also led singing. Anyone that grew up around Uel Beard knew that he taught singing, the reading and singing of shape notes. Uel had a high tenor voice and Gary was bass. Neither voice really lent to being able to lead.

Along with his parents, Gary was preceded in death by his wife of 58 years, Norma, and his son John. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Shelia and Keith Plunkett, one grandson, Hudson Beard, and daughter-in-law Lezlee Beard Gower. He is also survived by sister-in-law Orpha Talley Easley and brother (sister)-in-law Howard and Christine Talley along with a host of nieces and nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the local Boy Scout Troop 772 or the Centerville Church of Christ Camp Meribah Scholarship fund for children to be able to enjoy camp.

Cemetery Details

Charles L Nickell Memorial Park

Centerville, TN 37033

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

McDonald Funeral Home, Inc. - Hickman County
102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Funeral Service

AUG 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

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102 West End Ave.
Centerville, TN 37033
(931) 729-3561

Tribute Wall

MC

“ *Maelynn Campbell sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Beard*



Maelynn Campbell - August 13, 2023 at 11:37 AM

SC

“ *Sheila Chance sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Beard*



Sheila Chance - August 11, 2023 at 11:35 PM

SS

“ *Sheila Smith sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Beard*



Sheila Smith - August 07, 2023 at 03:06 PM

FF

“ *Shelia and family I was so sorry to hear about your dad passing. I worked with Gary at Levi's for many years. He was such a good Christian man. May God give you comfort during your time of grief.* ”



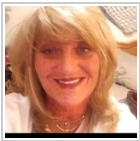
Frances McMeen & Family - August 07, 2023 at 12:05 PM

CB

“ *Carmela Brown lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard* ”



Carmela Brown - August 07, 2023 at 11:24 AM



“ *Paula Crowder lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard* ”



Paula Crowder - August 07, 2023 at 12:18 AM

RT

“ *Rhonda Taylor lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard* ”



Rhonda Taylor - August 07, 2023 at 12:06 AM



“ Prayers for the Beard family.



James Arthur (Tank) and Dana Atkinson - August 06, 2023 at 05:49 PM

DS

“ So sorry to hear of your loss of Gary. Your family is in my prayers!



Debbie Semore - August 06, 2023 at 01:50 PM

AC

“ Alisa Collins lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard



Alisa D Collins - August 06, 2023 at 01:46 PM

SR

“ I love you Uncle Gary, and will miss you but I know you are at home now with Aunt Norma and John. And Shelia I love you too 💕!



Sarah Rogers - August 06, 2023 at 01:24 PM

CB

“ *Connie Bowen lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



Connie Bowen - August 06, 2023 at 12:55 PM

JA

“ *Condolences to
The Beard Family*



Jim Adams - August 06, 2023 at 12:13 PM

RG

“ *Ronald Gammons lit a candle in memory of
Gary Beard*



Ronald Gammons - August 06, 2023 at 11:08 AM

DR

“ *Deborah RowlandShively lit a candle in
memory of Gary Beard*



Deborah RowlandShively - August 06, 2023 at 10:35 AM

MB

“ *Martha Butler lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



Martha Butler - August 06, 2023 at 08:02 AM

MS

“ *MELISSA SHELTON lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



MELISSA SHELTON - August 05, 2023 at 11:19 PM

SB

“ *Steven Baker lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



Steven Baker - August 05, 2023 at 11:18 PM

JW

“ *Jeff/Janet Wright sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Beard*



Jeff/Janet Wright - August 05, 2023 at 11:02 PM

WP

“ Wayne Jewell Prince lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard



Wayne and Jewell Prince - August 05, 2023 at 10:49 PM

RT

“ Rhonda Taylor lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard



Rhonda Taylor - August 05, 2023 at 10:12 PM

KF

“ Kilpatrick Family lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard



Kilpatrick Family - August 05, 2023 at 08:32 PM

SG

“ Stanley Judy Gordon lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard



Stanley & Judy Gordon - August 05, 2023 at 08:24 PM

CM

“ *Cheeva McClearen lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



Cheeva McClearen - August 05, 2023 at 08:05 PM

MB

“ *Michael Bates sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Beard*



Michael Bates - August 05, 2023 at 07:10 PM

GO

“ *Glenda Orman lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



Glenda Orman - August 05, 2023 at 06:56 PM

BI

“ *Brenda Isbell lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard*



Brenda Isbell - August 05, 2023 at 06:49 PM

LM

“ 11 months and we have said goodbye to Aunt Norma, mama (Lucille), Linda Easley and now Uncle Gary. Doesn't seem possible so much sadness can happen in such a short time and all are missed and uncle Gary will be too.

Lisa McCullough - August 05, 2023 at 06:48 PM

NE

Yes all are loved and missed

Nettie Carolyn Etheridge - August 08, 2023 at 10:47 PM



“ Betty Love lit a candle in memory of Gary Beard



Betty Love - August 05, 2023 at 06:32 PM