



John and Gerry Longworth

OCT 4, 2017



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



John and Gerry Longworth

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John and Gerry Longworth of Collierville, Tennessee, went to be with their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ Wednesday, October 4, 2017, which was one day after Gerry's 75th birthday. They were married 54 years and were inseparable in both life and death. Their commitment to the Lord, to one another, and to their family inspired many. John E. Longworth was born March 22, 1942, in Corbin, Kentucky. He married Gearldine "Gerry" Reid on April 6, 1963. John joined the United States Navy at the age of 17 and proudly served his country for thirty years. He rose through the ranks and retired in 1989 having achieved the rank of Command Master Chief Petty Officer. John was stationed at naval installations in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba; Pensacola, Florida; Brunswick, Georgia; San Clemente, California; Argentina, Newfoundland, Canada; Coronado, California; Adak, Alaska; and Memphis, TN. He served tours aboard the aircraft carriers USS Essex and USS Kitty Hawk. After retiring from the Navy, John worked briefly as an air traffic controller at Memphis International Airport before serving as a civilian in the Navy Personnel Command for twenty five years. In all, he spent fifty five years in service to his country. John is preceded in death by his parents John W. Longworth and Rebecca Eva Faulkner and his siblings Edith Griffith, Robert Longworth, Charles Longworth, James Longworth, Roy Longworth, Oranell Cupp, and Jacqueline Longworth. He is survived by his sister, Betty Bennett (Ray). Gearldine "Gerry" Reid Longworth was born October 3, 1942, in Corbin, Kentucky. Gerry was a supportive military spouse who traveled all over the nation as John served our country. She was a working mother whose career outside the home was at the Navy Exchange and more recently at Regions Mortgage. Upon retirement, she enjoyed spending time with her loving husband, her beloved son, and her precious grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her parents James Pearl Reid and Rachel Marie Reid. Gerry is survived by her brothers Sonny Reid (Violet), Wayne Reid (Pat), Bruce Reid (Wanda), Joe Reid (Connie), Bob Reid, Carl



Obituary

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Reid, and her sisters Donna Lindy, Debbie Moore (Ken), Mary Lou Reid, and Charlotte Grubb (Junior). Both John and Gerry are survived by their son John E. Longworth, Jr. (Sandra) and by their grandchildren Mark Longworth and Katie Pratt (Alex), as well as many nephews and nieces. They were active members of Germantown Baptist Church. Family and friends take great comfort in knowing that the Longworths' eternity is secure because of their faith in Jesus Christ and the power of His resurrection. Visitation will be Monday, October 9 from 5-7pm in the Riverside Chapel of Memorial Park Funeral Home on Poplar Avenue in Memphis. The funeral service will be held Tuesday, October 10 at 11:30 am at Germantown Baptist Church, 9450 Poplar Avenue Germantown, TN. The burial will be at 2pm at the West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery, 4000 Forest Hill-Irene Road, Memphis, TN 38125. Memorials may be designated for Germantown Baptist Church's Global Disciple Making efforts. Arrangements have been entrusted to Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery, 5668 Poplar Ave. Memphis, TN 38119 (901)767-8930. You may view tribute slideshow here:

<https://www.tributeslides.com/tributes/show/8HX724465RZSSLL5>



Tribute Wall

John and Gerry Longworth

CG

Craig And Frances Galloway posted:

Craig and I are so sorry for you loss. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

October 10 at 8:12 AM

DR

Dana, Anthony, Rodney And Randy posted:

Dear Sandra and John Our hearts are with you during this time of grief and loss. We are praying for comfort and strength as you walk through this time. We love you

October 9 at 11:11 AM

CB

Carol Bearden posted:

John, Ron and I did not know your parents, but because we know their son, we can imagine what wonderful people they were and how much fun it would have been to be around them. I know it is traumatic to lose both parents at once, but how wonderful that one did not have to mourn the other, but they were able to enter Heaven hand-in-hand. Know that we love you and feel you were instrumental in keeping our class together when we lost our teacher. We will certainly continue to lift you up in our prayers.

October 9 at 9:26 AM

DP

Dena Pratt posted:

i met John and Gerry in 2013 when they moved to Collierville. I helped decorate their new home and so the three of us got to know each other well. Over the last four years we have stayed in touch on a regular basis. That is how Gerry was, once we knew each other she cared about me and my husband and we frequently checked in with each other. I was planning on mailing their invitation today to my Halloween party that I have every year and so they have been on my mind. I am so heartbroken and I will miss them very much. John and Gerry were always together every time I saw them and they will live on like that in my memory until I see them again.They are precious angels now.

October 7 at 12:45 PM



Tribute Wall

John and Gerry Longworth

LB

Lena W. Buerkle posted:

Dear John & Sandra, I am so glad the Lord placed your parents on my path as we've journey through this life. It was a joy to get to sit with them at our senior adult activities from time to time and I loved it when you had the opportunity to come and chat for a bit as well. It was so obvious how much you loved and cared for them. I was delighted that my own Mom got to be a part of those conversations as well. My thoughts and prayers will continue to be with you in the days ahead. With deepest sympathy and love, Lena Germantown Baptist Church Family

October 7 at 9:52 AM

DH

Donna Howell posted:

John, I know how much you loved, honored, and cared for your parents. Yours is a tight-knit family, and I pray that the peace and comfort of the Holy Spirit, knowing that they are in heaven and walking in the true life of God, will sustain you and your family and give you hope through this difficult situation. God is good, and I pray that He holds you all close as you journey through this together.

October 6 at 10:55 AM

BL

Brenda Ledbetter posted:

John my sincerest, heartfelt sympathy is with you all today and always. God Bless You and your family as you get through this heart wrenching tragedy in the passing of your mom and dad. John, you are such a kind and gentle man and reached out to me recently as a pastor at GBC in my grief when my son passed in such kind empathy. I just can't imagine the grief you all are facing and feeling..., my heart certainly breaks for you and your family. God, prayer and faith keeps us strong Sincerely, Brenda Ledbetter Germantown Baptist Church Member

October 6 at 7:25 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring John by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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