



Gary Thomas Schwanke

February 12, 1947 - January 5, 2021

Gary Thomas Schwanke, aged 73 of Memphis, TN joined his Lord peacefully on Tuesday, Jan. 5.

Gary's legacy is that of a man who truly loved bringing smiles and happiness to those around him - whether that be perfect strangers or close family and friends, he always made the effort to make sure others felt the love and kindness he exuded so willingly. And from this came his dedication to sharing the importance of prayer in bettering the world around us, something in which he so deeply believed.

Gary was born Feb. 12, 1947 to Herman and Leona Schwanke in Memphis, he graduated from Central High School in 1964, served in the United States Marine Corps, and retired after over 30 years of service with South Central Bell. He enjoyed running & exercising, hunting, fishing, water skiing, golfing, and loved cheering on his Memphis Tigers. He was a lifetime member of Trinity Lutheran Church and faithfully served there as elder, trustee, councilman, and welcomed all newcomers to Trinity with joy & kindness.

He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Diane Schwanke (James) and his son, Cody of St. Louis, MO. Gary was preceded in death by his parents and his sister, Sandra Schwanke. A memorial service will be held at a later date and internment will be held privately with family. The family requests that memorials go to Trinity Lutheran Church in Memphis, TN.

Comments



“ An external video has been added.



Memorial Park Funeral Home and Cemetery - January 15, 2021 at 04:32 PM



“ Gary gave the best bear hugs and was famous for, and never ashamed of, his heartfelt tears! He felt so strongly about his faith and his church and was an inspiration to us all. I can't imagine Trinity without him, although I know he will always be beside us in the Schwanke pew. Until we meet again, dear Gary.

barbara Spahn - January 20, 2021 at 07:54 PM



“ We could not agree more with Gary's legacy description. Personal interactions certainly cement the very noticeable strength, focus, sincerity, honesty, dedication and generosity to name a few assets. A tremendous role model for all. We are blessed to have enjoyed the family relationship and he will be truly missed. May the Good Lord provide the extra support required during these difficult times.
Bonnie and Pat Parker

parker - January 10, 2021 at 03:16 PM