



Raleigh Gary Nelson

December 8, 1950 - November 1, 2018

Raleigh Gary Nelson, 67 years old, passed away November 1, 2018. Gary was born December 8, 1950 in Warrenton, Virginia and lived in Nokesville and Catlett, Virginia his entire life. Gary was a mechanic for the United States Postal Service for 33 years and retired in 2013. He was a lifelong member of Nokesville Church of the Brethren and a motorcycle enthusiast who enjoyed fixing broken things.

Gary is survived by his wife of 37 years, Dianne and their children, Tiffany McCann and husband Nathan, Adam Nelson and fiancée Katlyn Douglas, Matthew Nelson and wife Megan, and Kelsey Southard and husband Daniel. He is also survived by his brothers, Larry Nelson and Walter Nelson and their families; as well as three grandsons, Jackson, Raleigh, and Trevor Nelson. Gary was predeceased by his parents Raleigh Glick Nelson and Roberta Sadd Nelson Messamer.

Visitation will be held at Pierce Funeral home in Manassas on Monday November 5th from 6-8 PM, and a memorial service will be at Nokesville Church of the Brethren Tuesday November 6th at 11 AM with interment following.

In lieu of flowers, contributions would be welcomed to Brethren Volunteer Service (1451 Dundee Ave. Elgin. IL 60120) or New Community Project (117

Nature Rd. Blue Ridge, VA 24064).

Cemetery Details

Valley View Cemetery

12614 Valley View Drive
Nokesville, VA 20181

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Service

NOV 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Nokesville Church of the Brethren
13002 Fitzwater Drive
Nokesville, VA

Tribute Wall

DB

“ Our hearts are broken over the loss of Gary, he was one of a kind. Such a warm and generous man with his talents and knowledge. He will be greatly missed and fondly remembered. Hugs and love to all his family and community friends. Tony and Debbie

Debbie Brunner - November 12, 2018 at 11:20 AM

SJ

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you in your time of sorrow. Our sympathy, Clarence and Sheila Jones

Sheila & Clarence Jones - November 05, 2018 at 07:50 PM

MA

“ Gary always welcomed people with a smile and hug! I will miss his generosity and kindness, such a wonderfully caring person! Sending prayers and comfort to the family

Mandy - November 05, 2018 at 07:41 PM

MC

“ Mark and Cindy Paullin and Crystal. purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Raleigh Gary Nelson.



Mark and Cindy Paullin and Crystal. - November 05, 2018 at 04:01 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raleigh Gary Nelson.*



November 05, 2018 at 01:45 PM



“ *I always enjoyed our conversations at church as I left my kids with him for service. He was a great Sunday school teacher to my kids in their initial years of learning about Jesus. We are blessed that he touched our family in this way with his love for Christ and kindness. He will be dearly missed as he made such a huge impact on our community that knew him by his warm welcomes and sincerely caring conversations.*

Sandy Arnold - November 05, 2018 at 11:23 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Raleigh Gary Nelson.*



November 05, 2018 at 08:58 AM

KJ

“ *It's been along time since we seen you guys,
but was shocked to hear of Gary's passing.*

*May God bring you COMFORT and PEACE in
knowing that HE is with GOD now,
and you will see him again when your time comes.*

*Thinking of you and praying for your COURAGE to face the days
ahead and LOVING MEMORIES to forever hold in your heart!*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time.
You have our deepest sympathy.
Sincerely Keith & Jo Allen
Springfield, Illinois*



Keith & Jo - November 05, 2018 at 01:26 AM

VM

“ *I will always remember when we moved to Nokesville in 1993 and
starting attending NCOB how Gary always had a big smile, was so
friendly and helped us to feel welcome.*

Valerie Messenger

Valerie Messenger - November 04, 2018 at 06:54 PM

LS

“ *Larry And Connie Short lit a candle in
memory of Raleigh Gary Nelson*



Larry and Connie Short - November 04, 2018 at 05:47 PM

BH

“ I'll always remember running into Gary while hunting. Here comes this giant of a man in blaze orange coveralls always with a kind greeting and firm handshake. He will be missed by all who knew him and our prayers and thoughts are with his family.

Brian Hollinger - November 04, 2018 at 09:33 AM

JB

“ Gary and I worked together for a long time. He helped me many times during that period. He always knew a way to make things work. I frequently think of that time and of Gary and have many good memories of our working together. Please accept my condolences at this time of sorrow.

John Busardo

John Busardo - November 04, 2018 at 08:53 AM

DN

Dear John, he talked of you often even in retirement. He truly loved working with you. If there are others (that he cared for) from MVF Merrifield please pass the word.

Dianne Nelson - November 04, 2018 at 11:48 AM

 Alene Mullins

“ Our memories of Gary will be his warmth and personality as he greeted you with enthusiasm each time. Blessings and sympathy to his loving family.

Darrell and Alene Mullins

Alene Mullins - November 03, 2018 at 11:56 PM

NR

“ I can't believe this. My heart is breaking for your family. Praying for God's peace and comfort. I am sure Dad (David Webster) is there to meet him.

Nancy Webster Reed



Nancy Reed - November 03, 2018 at 07:31 PM

KB

“ Dad has problems remembering some people. When he learned that his raccoon hunting buddy from years ago was with Jesus, He was so upset. We remember Gary so full of life always had five irons in the fire. But never to worried with any of them. Life is so busy we loose touch with wonderful people. The memories of Gary will always be bittersweet. We are so sorry for your lose. Our families prayers are with your family.

The Curtis R. Short Family

Karen Short Balsamo - November 03, 2018 at 04:07 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Raleigh Gary Nelson.



November 03, 2018 at 10:31 AM

DB

“ We are so sorry to hear this news. Please know your family is in our prayers.

Dale, Cindy and Matthew Burke,

Becky and Kevin, Kirsten and Kayla

Dale Cindy Burke - November 03, 2018 at 10:21 AM

TG

“ So saddened for your loss. We will always remember the times we visited with your family at Barb's house and the VT football game viewings at our house. Praying for comfort and healing as only our Lord can provide during this difficult time. Heartfelt sympathy.....Andy and Tammy Guilliams

Tammy Guilliams - November 03, 2018 at 10:10 AM

DR

“ What a guy. Gary was a regular participant on our New Community Project Learning Tours since the 1990's. Most recently he rode his bike from Virginia to the Navajo reservation in Lybrook, NM in 2016 for our trip there. Affable, engaged, hard-working, intrepid (was on our Mosquito Coast trip in Honduras back in the 90's--small plane landing in cow pasture landing strip in driving rain, followed by canoe ride for two hours (ditto rain) to the village where our sleeping arrangement was in a school room in hammocks--his hit the ground with a thud in the middle of the night)--well-loved and greatly-missed....I will especially miss that sly grin and twinkle in his eye--peace to you, Dianne--

David Radcliff - November 03, 2018 at 10:01 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Raleigh Gary Nelson.



November 02, 2018 at 11:43 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Raleigh Gary Nelson.



November 02, 2018 at 11:05 PM



“ I will always remember the "Gentle Giant" Uncle Gary was! My heart is breaking for you, Aunt Nancy (Diane)! Praying for your peace in this horrible initial grieving period. I love you all!!!



Catie Hanback - November 02, 2018 at 09:23 PM



“ Dianne and family. May God give you strength and peace through this difficult time. Gary was such a big-hearted person, so considerate, so compassionate. You will all be in our prayers.



Sharon Flory - November 02, 2018 at 08:06 PM

PB

“ *Page Holmes Boone lit a candle in memory of Raleigh Gary Nelson*



Page Holmes Boone - November 02, 2018 at 06:10 PM

PB

My condolences go out to his family, I was a classmate of Gary at BDHS, in Nokesville. Gary was the nicest guy in my class, such a warm heart person. God bless to the family.

Page Holmes Boone - November 02, 2018 at 07:15 PM

JW

Kelsey, Dianne and family. Please know we are thinking of you, saying prayers and sending hugs. May God grant you His peace. Janet & Mark White

Janet White - November 02, 2018 at 07:39 PM

BP

Phyllis and I enjoyed Gary's visits with her as she is in Birmingham Green. Our prayers go to the entire family who we love deeply.

Bill Ponn - November 02, 2018 at 09:09 PM



My heart is so with you now, Walter and your family. What a sweet and gentle man was Gary. I am saddened for you all and keeping vigil for you here.

Suzanne Gandy

Suzanne Gandy - November 03, 2018 at 01:54 PM

MG

Mrs Nelson was my 4th grade teacher and we knew her family. All were always wonderful people. So sorry for your loss. Prayers for the family.

mary M Grove - November 04, 2018 at 11:04 AM

TF

Diane, Thinking of you and your family and praying. Tom&Suzy Flory

Tom Flory - November 04, 2018 at 05:29 PM

JU

So sorry to hear of this. Gary was so special to so many.

Darcey and Judy

Judy - November 14, 2018 at 10:09 AM



Gary was the kindest and most gentle of souls. I hope healing and peace will find you. I am sorry you had to say goodbye.

Mary Pennington Groff Class of 70

Frankie Groff - November 16, 2018 at 11:13 AM