



Gerald Wayne Lawrence

July 30, 1943 - April 17, 2011

Gerald W. Lawrence, age 67, of Searcy, died Sunday April 17, 2011 at St. Vincent Hospital. He was born July 30, 1943 to the late Richard and Zola Pope Lawrence in Zion, Missouri. Gerald retired from the United States Air Force after 22 years; he was a helicopter mechanic and participated in rescue missions during Vietnam. He preached for the Church of Christ for 25 years after graduating from Harding with his Associates in Biblical Studies. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Patricia Wagganer Lawrence; daughters, Gayla Pruitt, Tonia (Brian) White and Rebecca (Lee) Spear; 8 grandchildren, Justin (Erin) Pruitt, Micah and Morgan Pruitt, Abbie, Elizabeth and Macie White, Isaac and Petra Spear; brothers, Gary and Jim Lawrence; sisters, Margie Chilton, Sandra Killebrew and Sonya Mauser; as well as his adopted family Pam, Paul, David, and Jessica Gaskin. He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Billy Joe and his mother and father in-law; AnnaLee and Charley Wagganer.

Tribute Wall

RJ

“ Dear Pat, Gayla, Tonia & Rebecca, I am so sorry for your loss. Your husband and father was a wonderful man. Over the past several days I have been thinking back to when we first met, which is 30 years ago this year, as Tonia recently pointed out to me, when you moved to Kaiserslautern, Germany. Pat, you and Gerald were so involved with the church, especially the youth, leading the camp at Gemuenden and having the Campbells and me in your home all the time, along with others. We made such a lot of good memories in your home. Then in Searcy it was the same, with Harding students at your house constantly, whom you always received graciously and with a warm meal. I realize now what a sacrifice of your privacy that was. Now, the last several years you and Gerald have been like grandparents to my children as they came to camp with your own grandkids. That has meant so much to them and to me. Thank you for all the love and encouragement through the years. I know you and Gerald have done the same for many others through the years as you lived a life of service and always put the Lord first. Much love to you, Rebecca

Rebecca Jackson - May 04, 2016 at 07:13 PM

EG

“ Mrs. Lawrence and Family: We are very good friends with Tonia and Brian. My heart and thoughts go out to you and your family during this time. Tonia is an amazing person, she must have gotten it from the two of you! Please know that Lucas Christian Academy is praying for you. Of what I heard of Gerald, he is a loving, and caring man of God; he has made our Father proud. The gates opened wide as he approached them and God said, come in my faithful servant! He has lived a mighty and glorious life. Many Blessings!

Eric and Jackie Gilbreath - May 04, 2016 at 07:13 PM

RW

“ I am so sorry to hear about the loss and know you guys are grieving and am praying for comfort and peace. Was at a funeral when I got the text he passed away and they were singing " I will rise" by Chris Tomlin and the following words were appropriate--

*And I will rise when He calls my name
No more sorrow, no more pain
I will rise on eagles' wings
Before my God fall on my knees
And rise
I will rise*

Love ya'll

Rob, Amy, Ethan and Aaron

Rob White - February 10, 2016 at 05:01 PM

DC

“ I always looked forward to visiting Uncle Gerald and family when I was little and they were stationed in DC. He loved everyone around him with his whole heart and made sure they knew it. Of my memories, I will always treasure getting to see inside the Presidents plane and seeing Jimmy Carter leaving the base. All made possible by Uncle Gerald. Even after he retired from the military and moved to Arkansas, I loved to listen to his stories when he came to Fredericktown for a visit. He always had a smile on his face and a laugh just below the surface. He will be greatly missed by many. My love and prayers go out to those who will miss him the most.

Dina Cheek - February 10, 2016 at 05:01 PM

EG

“ *Mrs. Lawrence and Family:*
We are very good friends with Tonia and Brian. My heart and thoughts go out to you and your family during this time. Tonia is an amazing person, she must have gotten it from the two of you! Please know that Lucas Christian Academy is praying for you. Of what I heard of Gerald, he is a loving, and caring man of God; he has made our Father proud. The gates opened wide as he approached them and God said, come in my faithful servant! He has lived a mighty and glorious life.
Many Blessings!

Eric and Jackie Gilbreath - February 10, 2016 at 05:01 PM

AF

“ *Mrs. Lawrence and family:*

My heart and prayers go out to your family during this time. My daughter is in sweet Macie's class at LCA and I love your wonderful family.

Much love,
Allison Stark

Allison Stark and family - February 10, 2016 at 05:01 PM

VW

“ *To Ms. Pruitt and family: Our prayers go out to you during your time of loss. May the Lord bring you peace. Sincerely Victor and Annie White.*

Victor and Annie White - February 10, 2016 at 05:01 PM

MB

“ Dear Mrs. Pat and Family,

You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Meredith Boutell

Meredith Boutell - February 10, 2016 at 05:01 PM

RJ

“ Dear Pat, Gayla, Tonia & Rebecca,

I am so sorry for your loss. Your husband and father was a wonderful man.

Over the past several days I have been thinking back to when we first met, which is 30 years ago this year, as Tonia recently pointed out to me, when you moved to Kaiserslautern, Germany. Pat, you and Gerald were so involved with the church, especially the youth, leading the camp at Gemuenden and having the Campbells and me in your home all the time, along with others. We made such a lot of good memories in your home.

Then in Searcy it was the same, with Harding students at your house constantly, whom you always received graciously and with a warm meal. I realize now what a sacrifice of your privacy that was. Now, the last several years you and Gerald have been like grandparents to my children as they came to camp with your own grandkids. That has meant so much to them and to me. Thank you for all the love and encouragement through the years. I know you and Gerald have done the same for many others through the years as you lived a life of service and always put the Lord first.

*Much love to you,
Rebecca*

Rebecca Jackson - April 20, 2011 at 12:00 AM