



## Jerald "Jerry" D. Gross

March 27, 1934 - November 11, 2016

Jerald "Jerry" Gross 82 year old resident of Motley, MN passed away Friday, November 11, 2016 at Lakewood Health Systems in Staples, MN. A memorial service will be held at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, March 31, 2017 at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN with Father Gary Gross officiating. Burial will take place in the Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery north of Little Falls, MN. A time of visiting will be from 10-11 A.M. on Friday at the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN. Funeral arrangements are with the Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls, MN.

Jerald "Jerry" Gross was born on March 27, 1934 in Greenleaf, KS to the late Marvin and Alma (Luehring) Gross. He married Joan Griffeth on February 7, 1954 in Beatrice, NE.

Jerry graduated high school in Beatrice, NE and completed college at Colorado College, Colorado Springs, CO and the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE. He proudly served in the U.S. Navy. Jerry established Community Living, Inc. in Victoria, MN and after 30 years of helping serve the needs of special people, he retired in 1991. Upon retirement, he and Joan moved to Crookneck Lake near Motley, MN. Jerry enjoyed the lake, woodworking, keeping his yard immaculate and getting in the truck, hooking up to the camper and hitting the road to see the country side.

Jerry is survived by his wife Joan of Motley, MN; children, Tracey (John) Hepola of Bemidji, MN, Tami (Randy) Wenthold of Menahga, MN, Brian Gross of Maple Grove, MN; and 4 grandchildren.

Jerry was preceded in death by his parents, brother, daughter-in-law Jean Gross and one grandchild.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests all memorials be sent in honor of Jerry to Lakewood Health Systems Palliative Care Unit in Staples, MN.

# Cemetery Details

## **Minnesota State Veterans Cemetery**

15550 Highway 115  
Little Falls, MN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Jerald "Jerry" D. Gross*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - March 29, 2017 at 09:24 AM

KB

*What a great tribute to a man so deserving... you will be missed Jerry...love you!*

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**Karen Budde** - March 30, 2017 at 02:18 PM

CU

*My great shipmate and friend J.D.Gross, gone but in my heart forever. Wonderful job done on this memorial presentation.*

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**CDR James F. Roth, USN(Ret)** - January 11, 2021 at 09:08 PM



“ *Jerald "Jerry" D. Gross*

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January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM

GV

“ I truly enjoyed knowing Jerry. He was always so supportive of people around him. When he knew he had cancer and a limited time he never made it all about himself but the wonderful family that God had given him. I will truly miss this great gentleman.

*Chaplain Gregg Valentine*

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**Gregg Valentine** - March 30, 2017 at 01:47 PM



“ 2 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - March 29, 2017 at 09:11 AM

TF

“ The Lienemann Family purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Jerald "Jerry" D. Gross.

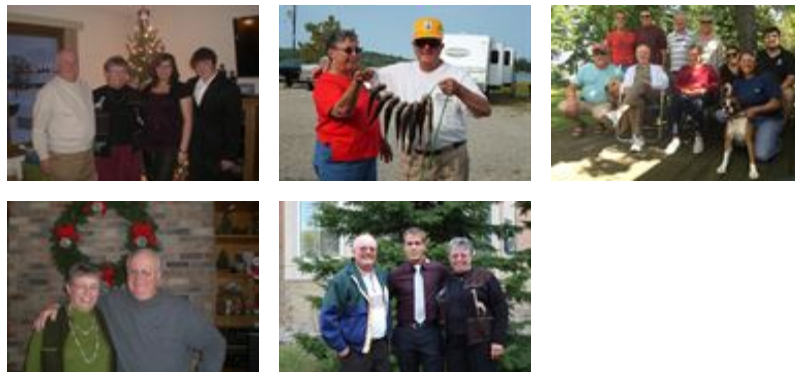


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**The Lienemann Family** - March 28, 2017 at 05:32 PM



“ 31 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - March 28, 2017 at 02:55 PM

BH

“ *Jo, Tracey, Tami and Brian - I am so blessed to have you as family. Jo and Jerry have been a rock of emotional support and love as long as I can remember. Spending time during the summers of my childhood with them was one of my favorite things. I can still hear Jerry's giggle as he teased and loved all those fortunate enough to be in his presence. His unique sense of humor made you feel loved and special all at the same time. During some of the most difficult times in my life, Jo and Jerry provided a safe sanctuary of love and a safe harbor. Jerry could help you laugh your problems down to size and offer sound advice and love to heal. He was an inspiration and hero to me and I will miss him so much.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with you and I love you all.*

*Becky Horne*

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**becky horne** - November 24, 2016 at 07:09 AM

CB

“ Truly blessed to grow up with Uncle Jerry and Aunt Jo in my life! Loved spending time at their house in Beatrice and later in Minnesota. Uncle Jerry's love and kindness for all people touched many lives. I loved sitting and listening to Dad and Uncle Jerry sharing stories and jokes! I still hear the laughter! The love between he and Aunt Jo has been an inspiration in my own marriage. Grandpa and Grandma Gross must have done something right raising such strong, kind boys who loved their wives and their families with all their souls!  
Uncle Jerry, we love you and we miss you! Aunt Jo, Tracey, Tami, Brian, and families, we wrap you in our love and our prayers.  
Cheryl

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**Cheryl Benes** - November 23, 2016 at 02:12 PM

GR

“ I think I learned how to enjoy life and the people God put in it from Uncle Jerry and Aunt Jo. Right from the beginning, going to their house in Beatrice meant being teased and loved at the same time. Then when in college, I could count on them to provide notes and prayers of encouragement to get through the long days of being away from home. My friends and I would take the long way home from Kentucky to Nebraska through Minnesota just to watch him and fight off mosquitoes while fishing ( stayed in the car).

Watching him attempt to use "Swen and Ollie" stories to teach Minnesota logic to my wife on their trips to Nebraska was always entertaining as Minnesota met Irish. But it must of had some effect, as she still quotes them today.

I cannot image how my life would have different since he was there since I was little, but it would have been less than it is. He will be missed.

Greg

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greg - November 21, 2016 at 09:29 PM

LT

“ I am a friend of Tami's and have so enjoyed hearing about her parents over the years. I have felt a kindred spirit with Jerry because my career has overlapped his at times. Tami's stories of holidays are always a joy to hear about with the teasing and laughter that was had and I always wanted to win a trophy at Christmas! My heart goes out to Jo, I can't imagine the loss of someone you have spent so many years together- loving and living and making memories. I'm thankful Jo will be in a place with people around to help her as she makes this transition. I pray Jo and family can remember Jerry with love and laughter in the days and months to come. I think he would have wanted that! Much love to you all!  
Blane and Laurie

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**Laurie Thompson** - November 21, 2016 at 07:00 PM

GG

“ Jerry was a great Uncle and a role model in how to treat others with loving care and concern. His sense of humor at the right time helped others to make something positive out of a negative. Though he will be greatly missed, knowing that the brothers are together again brings joy to my heart. Fr Gary Gross

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**gary Gross** - November 21, 2016 at 02:02 PM

JR

“*"J.D." was the nick name Jerry had when we bonded as good friends at Naval Air Station Olathe, Kanas, the summer of 1953. We were there as young naval reservists on summer training to advance our pay grade and skills prior to returning to our college studies come fall. We really hit it off well, remaining close friends, throughout our lives until Jerry "Went West" on Veteren's Day 2016, after his long and very successful marriage and career. I was there for his marriage to Jo in 1953, in Nebraska, and Jerry and Jo attended my wedding in South Dakota in 1954. My many recent summer visits with Jerry and Jo at their Crook Neck Lake home were wonderful as our friendship continued to thrive. I will miss my shipmate, Jerry, our friendship was a strong one to the very end. May "JD" rest in peace.*

*Jim Roth, USN, retired.*

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**Jim Roth** - November 21, 2016 at 12:55 PM

AR

“*I met Jerry and Jo a few times over the many years I have been friends with Tami and heard stories about them often. My own parents died many years ago. I have always thought Jerry and Jo were the sort of people anyone would want as parents. Fun-loving, Family-First sort of people. He will be missed.*

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**alice retka** - November 21, 2016 at 11:30 AM

MS

“ I have so many memories of Jerry. I worked for him for 38 years but he was much more than a boss. He was a mentor, teacher, and friend. The love between Jerry and Jo was an inspiration. I will miss being able to talk to Jerry and hear his laughter. He was one of the great guys and with his passing the era of what was Community Living ends. He will be so dearly missed and remembered. I will keep the family in my thoughts and prayers. A memorial has been sent to Lakewood Health in his memory. Monica Schmidt

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**Monica Schmidt** - November 17, 2016 at 07:01 PM

KB

“ Kevin & Janet Burggraff lit a candle in memory of Jerald "Jerry" D. Gross



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**Kevin & Janet Burggraff** - November 17, 2016 at 07:27 AM