

GERALD LEE PRITCHARD

May 15, 1938 - August 9, 2023

Gerald "Jerry" Lee Pritchard, Sr. was born May 15, 1938 in Duluth, Minnesota to Llewelyn & Marjorie (Brosius) Pritchard. Raised along with his sisters, Mary and Kathy, Jerry loved fishing and boating.

Jerry also loved his country. He served in the military in the Army, Navy, and National Guard for a total of 25 years earning many awards and recognition. After his military career ended, Jerry just couldn't quit, volunteering with the Coast Guard Auxiliary for an additional 18 years. He earned the Public Safety Officer Lifesaving Award in August of 2010 from the Oregon State Marine Board for saving the life of a young boy at Foster Lake.

Quite the ladies' man, Jerry settled down with his wife Flora and started a family while serving. They had three sons, Gerald Jr., Steven, and Alan, raising them here in the Willamette Valley. When the boys grew up, moved out, and started their own families, he then became a grandfather to seven, developing a special bond with Alan's son Devin. Jerry would take Devin to boat shows and fishing, showing him all the things he loved so much. He earned the nickname "Boat-show Grandpa" from Devin. Devin continues the tradition, passing on the love of fishing, boating, and water sports to his boys Remington and Clay.

Each of his sons held a special place in his heart: Jerry Jr. for his four years of service in the US Marine Corps, Steven - always a great fisherman, gifting his dad with delicious smoked fish, Alan has a successful long-time career and passed on his love of fishing and water sports to his son, Devin.

While he had his own children, Jerry's heart was always big enough to add more, adopting his neighbor Helen and her family as his own. Helen had a granddaughter, Cora, who decided Jerry was her Grandpa Jerry. They had a sweet relationship, with Cora bringing lots of energy and laughter into his life.

Holidays were his favorite. Every 4th of July, he would watch the fireworks with friends and neighbors, loving the bbq's and togetherness. Pictures can reflect just how much he loved Halloween. He would get excited to see the kids in their Halloween garb every year, always ready with his bowl of candy and his "clicker" to count just how many kids would stop by.

Jerry was a faithful Catholic and a proud member of the Knights of Columbus since 2017. His good friend Dorothy always made sure he would make it to mass and have a nice lunch with him afterwards.

In his later years, most days were spent with his loyal feline friend, Chance, watching television. He would especially enjoy the occasional visits from friends and family, as well as his Coast Guard Auxiliary friends.

While Jerry will be terribly missed, we are comforted in the knowledge that we will see him again someday.

Oo Rah, Jerry.



HONORING THE LIFE OF GERALD LEE PRITCHARD

MAY 15, 1938 - AUGUST 9, 2023



OORAH!

GOD SAW HE WAS GETTING TIRED
AND A CURE WAS NOT TO BE,

SO HE PUT HIS ARMS AROUND HIM
AND WHISPERED

"COME WITH ME."

WITH TEARFUL EYES WE WATCHED HIM SUFFER,
AND SAW HIM FADE AWAY.

ALTHOUGH **WE LOVED HIM DEARLY**,
WE COULD NOT MAKE HIM STAY.

A **GOLDEN HEART** STOPPED BEATING.
HARD WORKING HANDS PUT TO REST,

GOD BROKE OUR HEARTS TO PROVE TO US
HE ONLY TAKES THE BEST.

In Honored Memory of
GERALD LEE PRITCHARD

Age 85

Born
May 15, 1938
Duluth, Minnesota

Entered Into Rest
August 9, 2023
Lebanon, Oregon

Visitation
Wednesday, August 23, 2023 1 - 4 p.m.
AAsum-Dufour Funeral Home
Albany, Oregon

Private Graveside Service
Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.
Willamette National Cemetery
Portland, Oregon

Military Honors Provided By:
Oregon Military Funeral Honor Guard

Pallbearing
21 Gun Salute
Taps
Flag Presentation