



## Eugene "Gene" Carl Rottenbacher

Eugene "Gene" Carl Rottenbacher was born January 13, 1935, at 4:00 a.m. to Jake and Margaret Rottenbacher at Carl Gerber's home on the kitchen table. He died August 20, 2017.

Gene was raised on a ranch in Cedar Canyon, SD. One of his most memorable experiences was breaking a horse his dad gave him named Peco. He was scared to break him but afterwards they were a great team. He attended school in Cedar Canyon, Sulfphur Creek, and St. Martins.

He joined the U.S. Army in 1953 during the

Korean War, serving in Germany. Following his honorable discharge in 1955, he worked as a ranch hand. While doing this, he found the love of his life, Lila Richardson. They were married February 4, 1956. Together they had seven children.

In the 60's, Gene entered the heating and air conditioning trade. He later established Gene's Heating and Air Conditioning in Sturgis, SD. He retired in 1996.

During his life, Gene was active in the Sturgis American Legion and the VFW, serving as the Commander for a number of years. He also bartended and called bingo for the VFW. He enjoyed the motorcycle rally, which allowed him to meet a lot of people that he became lifelong friends with, especially the Iowa bikers. His yard on Main Street was always filled with tents during the rally. Gene owned a Honda Helix that he and Lila drove for over 45,000 miles.

Gene is survived by his wife of 61 years, Lila; two sons, Jake (Murl) Rottenbacher and Jan (Sami) Rottenbacher; five daughters, Donna Baier, Debbie (Mark) Klabenes, Dixie Barnett, Sandy (Blaise) Frost, and LuAnn (Marvin) Kellsy; 15 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, Joseph Rottenbacher; sister, Katherine Symonds; and grandson, Greg Baier.

A memorial has been established to old St. Martin's Chapel in Sturgis.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.kinkadefunerals.com](http://www.kinkadefunerals.com).



## *In Loving Memory Of*



***Eugene "Gene" Carl Rottenbacher***

***1935 ~ 2017***



### ***SERENITY PRAYER***

*God, grant me the serenity  
To accept the things I cannot change;  
The courage to change the things I can  
And the wisdom to know the difference.  
Living one day at a time;  
Enjoying one moment at a time;  
Accepting hardship as the pathway to peace,  
Taking, as He did, this sinful world as it is;  
Not as I would have it;  
Trusting that He will make all things right  
If I surrender to his will,  
That I may be reasonably happy in this life  
And supremely happy with Him forever in the next.*

*Amen*

***In Loving Memory Of***

## ***Eugene "Gene" Carl Rottenbucher***

### ***Born***

January 3, 1935  
Cedar Canyon, SD

### ***Died***

August 20, 2017  
Fort Meade, SD

### ***Mass of Christian Burial***

Wednesday, August 23, 2017, at 1:00 p.m.  
St. Martin's Chapel  
Sturgis, South Dakota

### ***Celebrant***

Father Timothy Castor

### ***Accompanist***

Dr. Barry Furze

### ***Singer***

Blaise Frost

### ***Musical Selections***

"Amazing Grace"      "The Old Rugged Cross"  
"Gift Of Finest Wheat"      "On Eagle's Wings"  
"How Great Thou Art"

### ***Pallbearers***

Jeffery Baier ~ Clinton Smith ~ Cameron Strand ~ Marvin Kellsy  
Dylan Kellsy ~ Jakob Rottenbucher ~ Daniel Klabenes  
Dakota Remington ~ Conor Frost ~ Desmond Frost ~ Blaise Frost

### ***Honorary Pallbearers***

Genaveve Thomson ~ Windy DiSalvo ~ Serena Klabenes  
Michelle Webster ~ Ciara Frost ~ Melissa Ferraro

### ***Special Friends:***

Jesse Whitford ~ Junior Olson ~ Jerry Schuelke  
Charlie Russell ~ Dave Schone

### ***Interment***

Black Hills National Cemetery  
Sturgis, South Dakota

*The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch in the Sturgis VFW Club following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.*