

Gerald "Jerry" John Kienzle

Jerry was born April 2, 1948, in Mobridge, SD, the youngest of a family with 5 boys and 3 girls. After he graduated High School, he joined the Air Force as an airplane mechanic and proudly served our country for 10 years. During his time in the service he married Linda Huck where they had 3 kids. After he left the service, he worked a few jobs the next couple years and moved around until they settled in Gillette, WY. He operated Campbell County Lockers for a while processing meat and as far as I know he knew everything you could about that skill. But he soon found his lifelong dream job of managing a cattle ranch. The family lived on the Tripp Brothers ranch for several years until he and Linda were divorced.

A short time later Jerry met Bessie Oxford and the two of them married. Bessie was there through the remainder of his life enjoying adventures along the way, lovingly and graciously caring for him until the end.

He loved his many hobbies during retirement. He was an excellent wood craftsman, some of his pieces are still in Gillette locations today. Fishing and camping became his favorite thing to do and he enjoyed all of it. Lake Oahe in SD, was his special place to go with Bessie and his family. There are of course endless "fish" stories!

Some may remember him from his days throwing darts. He made a lot of friends along the way, both in Gillette and Sturgis.

Many nights were spent by family visiting, playing cards, dice, darts or whatever and having a great time. On occasion he would get to laughing so hard that he would have to "go to his room". That time will be missed by all.

Gerald "Jerry" Kienzle, 72, passed away peacefully at his home on October 29, 2020, in Sturgis, SD. He died of an extended illness that he battled courageously until God gave him the call.

Jerry is survived by his three kids, John (Cari) Kienzle, Jeri Lyn (Brian) Bares, and Jo Dee (Chad) Markley; his grandkids, Christopher, Ryan and Nicole Kienzle; Samuel and Allison Bares.; Ian, Isaac, Aiden, Elise and Adalyn Markley.

Bessie also brought her wonderful family to join his, Shaun Arnold and Valerie (Dan) Milicevic; her grandkids, Rick Arnold and Heather (Tony) Thompson; Matthew, Dillon and Alex Milicevic; and of course, there were many nieces, nephews, and great-grandchildren he adored!

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.kinkadefunerals.com.

The family invites you to join them for fellowship and lunch at the Vet's Club following the committal service. We thank you for your presence and condolences.



In Loving Memory

Gerald "Jerry" John Kienzle

April 2, 1948 ~ October 29, 2020



Footprints

One night I had a dream.

I was walking along the beach with the Lord, and across the skies flashed scenes from my life. In each scene I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand. One was mine, and one was the Lord's.

When the last scene of my life appeared before me, I looked back at the footprints in the sand, and to my surprise I noticed that there was only one set of footprints. And I noticed that it was at the lowest and saddest times in my life.

I asked the Lord about it. "Lord, you said that once I decided to follow you, you would walk with me all the way. But I notice that during the most troublesome times in my life there is only one set of footprints. I don't understand why you left my side when I needed you most."

The Lord replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never leave you. During your times of trial and suffering, where you see only one set of footprints, I was carrying you."



In Memory Of

Gerald "Jerry" John Kienzle

Date of Birth

April 2, 1948
Mobridge, South Dakota

Date of Death

October 29, 2020
Sturgis, South Dakota

Service

Monday, November 2, 2020, at 1:00 p.m.
Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota

Clergy

Pastor David Baer

Music

Amazing Grace

Pallbearers

Ryan Kienzle ~ Christopher Kienzle ~ Ian Markley
Isaac Markley ~ Shaun Arnold ~ Rocky Kienzle

Honorary Pallbearers

Tony Kienzle ~ Larry Neiger ~ Rick Arnold ~ Samuel Bares
All Family and Friends

Military Honors

Sturgis Veteran's Honor Guard
Sturgis, South Dakota

Final Resting Place

Black Hills National Cemetery
Sturgis, South Dakota