



Eugene "Gene" Hermann

November 6, 1928 - April 11, 2020

Gene Hermann, age 91, of Havana, died at 5:00 a.m., on Saturday, April 11, 2020, at the Villas of Hollybrook in Washington, Illinois. He was born November 6, 1928, in Topeka, IL, to Edward and Freda (Kellersman) Hermann. He married Joan Furrer on June 25, 1950, in Easton. She survives. Also surviving are two sons: Douglas (Lynda) of Libertyville and Dennis (Jill) of Washington; and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; sister, Mabel G. Stier and brother, Don J. Hermann.

He was a 1950 graduate of Illinois Wesleyan University, with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration.

He owned and operated an Insurance and Real Estate Agency in Havana for 34 years, retiring in 1986.

He was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Havana, having served as Chairman of Church several times, as well as on their Foundation and was chairman of their new parsonage committee in 1963.

He served on formation committees for Mason District Hospital; Havana Little League and Lakewood Golf Association, and later served the latter two for several years as board member. He was treasurer of the Havana Optimist Club's effort in building the Optimist Pool. Governor Thompson appointed him to Havana Regional Port Authority and while on that board, was instrumental in developing Havana Regional Airport.

He joined the Havana Club of Optimist International in 1952 (and still a member) and was chosen as District Governor in 1961; attended several International Conventions and was a Life Member. He served on Havana Community Chest Board for 9 years. He served on Mason County Housing Authority for many years. He also served as board member of the State Bank (now TBK) for 18 year. For 13 years, he was a member of Regional Board of School Trustees for Mason, Menard and Logan Counties.

He was an avid sports fan, but his first love was basketball. Winter time would find him in the bleachers attending Jr. High, High School and College level games.

Cremation rites have been accorded and burial will be held at Easton Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Foundation in Havana, or Calvary Lutheran Church in Orr, Minnesota. Online condolences can be left for

the family at www.hurleyfh.com.

Hurley Funeral Home in Havana is in charge of arrangements.

Comments



“ Dear Joan, Doug, Dennis and family,
We were brought into the Hermann fold in Orr MN. Gene and Joan are two of the most loving and generous people that we have every been blessed to know. Their dedication to the Lord and strong Christian faith was reflected in their actions and love for others. We spent many hours blueberry picking with Gene at his special spots and their festive 4th of July parties were spectacular. We remember their first cabin dinner on Indian Point on Pelican Lake and many more to follow in the Orr cabin. We shared a love of fishing for crappies especially on Ban Lake. There were many basketball talks at the A & W breakfast get togethers. As most of you have related how involved the Hermanns were in Havana, they have also been a vital part of the Orr community and are sorely missed but never forgotten. They have been wonderful role models for all who know them. To Joan, our sympathy and love. To the rest of the family, your dad and grandpa was proud of you all with adoring love.
John and Bonnie Bailey

John and Bonnie Bailey - April 24, 2020 at 11:37 AM



“ Joan and family, Gene was truly a special gift to the Havana community and to mankind. Happy to have called him friend. Blessings and strength to Joan and family.
Ruby Miller



Ruby Miller - April 18, 2020 at 02:01 PM



“ Joan and Family,

Don and I are so sorry. Gene was like a very special uncle and I loved his dry sense of humor. I will forever remember the time he and Doug installed a new storm door on my little house in Valparaiso. I did not realize the reason I got such a good price on the door was that it had to be assembled before it could be installed. He saw the humor in my frugality and he never let me forget it!

One of the greatest honors of my life is to be the godmother of two of his grandchildren.

We will miss him. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers.

Love,
Jill Long Thompson

Jill Long Thompson - April 18, 2020 at 11:35 AM



“ My deepest condolences to Joan, Doug and Dennis and family's. I am so honored to have had the opportunity to know and care for Gene at VHB. He never failed to surprise and amuse me. Over time we shared many smiles and much . Once he got me trained to the "Gene" way.

I will carry him fondly in my heart, as well as the family. Each Christmas as I display the treasured wood carving you gifted me; consider yourself "heart hugged".

Fly high! My Special friend.



Wanda Routt - April 16, 2020 at 03:49 PM



“ Thanks for the flowers and thank you so much for the great care and love you provided for Gene.

Dennis - April 16, 2020 at 08:19 PM



“ Joan and family,
So sorry for your loss. Prayers that your faith provides strength in your grief until you meet again in heaven.
With deepest sympathy,
Paula Redenius
Sherman

Paula Redenius - April 14, 2020 at 09:56 PM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with your family. God bless you all. Marilyn Bates Ward

marilyn - April 14, 2020 at 07:21 PM



“ Mrs. Hermann, Doug, and Dennis my thoughts and prayers are with you and your families. I am very sorry for your loss. Mr. Hermann was always very friendly and smiling. May he Rest In Peace.

Susan Bates Dick

Susan Bates Dick - April 14, 2020 at 07:15 PM



“ Even when I was a kid I can remember how Gene would come up and talk and joke around with me in his friendly way. I remember how good it made me feel that an important member of the Havana community would take the time to talk to a kid like me.

I got to know him better through the years at church, but also while being the veterinarian for his black lab,Lucky (?) We joked around a lot with each other, but I will never forget what he told me one day when I told him how sorry I was to hear that Lucky had passed away. Gene said "Well, someday it's going to happen to me and you too!" Then he smiled a gentle smile, and I could tell what he was thinking without him saying it. I'm sure he was trying to tell me that even though someday he and I were both going to pass away, we didn't need to worry about it, because we both knew where we would be going when our earthly life was over. I'll never forget that.

I'm sorry for your loss. Gene was a great man!

Rodney Yetter - April 14, 2020 at 06:37 PM



“ Rodney that is a great story. He loved Lucky. Thanks so much for your memory post .

Dennis - April 16, 2020 at 08:25 PM



“ We are sorry for your loss. We always enjoyed visiting with Gene and listening to his stories! May your memories keep him close
Darell and Rosanne Sarff

Rosanne Sarff - April 14, 2020 at 05:56 PM



“ My thoughts, prayers, and condolences to the Hermann Family. He was a great man! The last time I saw him was when he stopped at our house on Washington because we were having a garage sale. I had not seen him for years and I was so excited. He was very gracious and looked around. We talked for a few minutes and he was gone. That short encounter made me smile the rest of the day. It brought back so many great memories of growing up in Havana and seeing him around town and at sporting events.

Cheryl (Wilson) Plunkett

Cheryl Plunkett - April 14, 2020 at 05:01 PM



“ Thanks much Cheryl.

Dennis - April 14, 2020 at 08:19 PM



“ My fondest memories of growing up in Havana were of people like your dad who was always kind, encouraging and respectful of everyone. Men and women like Mr. Hermann shaped us and gave us the confidence to carry ourselves with pride because we knew they cared about us. My sincere sympathies to your family.

Debi (Payne) McCarthy

Debra McCarthy - April 16, 2020 at 11:26 AM



“ Truly sorry for your family's loss. RIP Gene.

Ken Beaty - April 14, 2020 at 03:19 PM



“ Thanks Ken. He always enjoyed talking with you.

Dennis - April 14, 2020 at 08:23 PM



“ Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson sent a virtual gift in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



Lisa Jill Ulrich Thompson - April 14, 2020 at 01:22 PM



“ When I applied for enrollment at Illinois Wesleyan University, I was asked to have an alumnus send a letter of recommendation. The only alumnus that I knew at that time was Gene Hermann. He graciously consented to write the letter, and it was very generous. When we talked about it afterward, he gave me some advice about the difference between high school studies and college studies - namely that there would be no one at college to make sure that I did the work for my studies but me, and that I should discipline myself. I followed his advice, though very imperfectly, and I was always grateful for that "head's up" from a very wise man. I am still grateful to God for that moment when our paths crossed. My prayers and condolences to his family.
Rev. Stan Haxton. Class of 1967 IWU. Havana High School, Class of 1963.

Stan Haxton - April 14, 2020 at 12:38 PM



“ GENE was the one that sold my parents their house when I was 11 years old. It's been a great home and still is for my dad. I would see Gene at church he was an outstanding gentleman. Rip Gene God Bless you.



Illia wilkey - April 14, 2020 at 10:41 AM



“ Sorry for your loss Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family



Dan and chris Wilson - April 14, 2020 at 09:51 AM



“ Larry And Mary Hundt lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



Larry and Mary Hundt - April 14, 2020 at 09:07 AM



“ Prayers to Joan and her family at this sad time. Thinking of you's Carol Kolves.

Carol Kolves - April 14, 2020 at 08:27 AM



“ Tim Griffin lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



tim griffin - April 14, 2020 at 08:00 AM



“ Kraig Krause lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



Kraig Krause - April 14, 2020 at 07:25 AM



“ Thanks Kraig. Mason County treated Geno pretty good over the years. And he returned that loyalty.

Dennis - April 15, 2020 at 10:49 AM



“ Joan, Doug, & Dennis, our thoughts & prayers are with you & your families. Gene was a very special man & we will miss him too. Gary & Nancy Blakely

Nancy Blakely - April 13, 2020 at 10:24 PM



“ AJ Burgett lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



AJ Burgett - April 13, 2020 at 04:41 PM



“ So sorry Joan,! Such a hard time to lose a loved one! My thoughts and prayers for you and the boys!



MARY L(FRANCE) POTTS - April 13, 2020 at 03:04 PM



“ One of the best guys ever! My whole family really liked and respected Gene. Sincerely sorry for your loss. Blessings and Love, Sharon Rexroth Wagenknecht

Sharon Wagenknecht - April 13, 2020 at 02:55 PM



“ Patti Specketer lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



Patti Specketer - April 13, 2020 at 02:45 PM



“ Gene is now at peace now and with many old friends. Mif will be there to welcome him as well as Mel, old basketball buddies, condolences to Joan, Doug, Dennis and families. Have good memories playing pinochle and trips to minnesota. Love and prayers, Bernie Sarff, decatur

bernie sarff. - April 13, 2020 at 02:32 PM



“ Pretty sure Gene and Mif are putting together a pick up game.

Dennis - April 14, 2020 at 08:12 PM



“ Very sorry for your loss. I remember our family going to the cabin in Orr, Minnesota many years ago. Great memories. Gene always had a smile and a kind word!

Jenny Karrick - April 13, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ Remember it well Jenny. It was a full house.

Dennis - April 14, 2020 at 08:17 PM



“ The children of Darrel and Judy Hilst send you their deepest condolences. Mr. Hermann was such a good friend to our dad and is quite possibly why our dad took a job at the State Bank of Havana. An obituary can never say everything about a person. But I do know Mr. Hermann was a gifted singer. He and my dad sang together in a barbershop group in the 50s. May God's love and warm memories comfort all who loved Mr. Hermann as you miss his earthly presence. -Doretta Hilst Irwin

Doretta Hilst Irwin - April 13, 2020 at 02:08 PM



“ Fond memories also of Hilst, Hermann, & Browns in full German outfits for early years of Oktoberfest .

Dennis - April 14, 2020 at 08:14 PM



“ Our deepest sympathy to Gene's family. He was my parents insurance agent and friend for many years in Havana. Sincerely, Alvin and Lorenda Spilker.

Alvin and Lorenda Spilker - April 13, 2020 at 02:06 PM



“ Nancy Elliott lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Hermann



Nancy Elliott - April 13, 2020 at 01:42 PM