



William "Jerry" Davis

July 28, 1931 - November 28, 2018

William Jerome "Jerry" Davis, age 87, of Petersburg, Illinois, passed away on November 28, 2018. He was born on July 28, 1931, to George and Wilma Davis of Mt. Sterling, Illinois.

After graduating from high school, Jerry joined the United States Air Force. He served during the Korean War. Jerry then attended Culver-Stockton College in Canton, Missouri, where he earned his bachelor's degree. He later earned his master's degree in Public School Administration.

While at Culver-Stockton College, Jerry met Connie Bea Davis whom he married on August 2, 1953. They enjoyed dancing through life together for sixty-three blessed years.

Jerry taught and coached in several school districts in Missouri before moving his family to Petersburg in 1967 where he worked as the Assistant Superintendent of Schools for one year. The following year he became the Superintendent of Schools for PORTA School District and remained in this position for many years. Jerry worked diligently toward the passing of the tax referendum to build what many still call the "new high school." This was accomplished his final year as PORTA's superintendent.

After resigning as superintendent, Jerry was employed by the State of Illinois.

He was first at the Capital Development Board and later at the Department of Natural Resources where he worked until his retirement.

Jerry was a longtime member of the Central Presbyterian Church of Petersburg. Jerry and Connie faithfully attended church here and at the First Christian Church where Connie was a member.

Jerry enjoyed spending his time with family and friends as well as being involved with his community. He loved ballroom dancing with Connie, chauffeuring Connie around the country in their RV, singing in the church choir, being a ham radio operator, and making people laugh with his humor. Jerry donated his time as secretary to his church for many years and was a volunteer for Meals on Wheels. He was a past board member for the Shambole Golf Course. Jerry was a Mason, member of the VFW Honor Guard, and a past Lieutenant Governor of Kiwanis.

Jerry was preceded in death by his wife Connie, his parents George and Wilma Davis, his sister Laura Feld, and his brother Jack Davis.

Jerry is survived by his daughter Paula (Gerry Faw) Davis of Pensacola Beach, Florida; his son Serge Davis of Petersburg, Illinois; his daughter Marianne Meyer of Lebanon, Missouri; his granddaughters Shanda (Josh) Cullen, Bailey Davis, and Holly Davis; and his great-grandson Caleb Cullen.

A visitation will be held at Hurley Funeral Home in Petersburg on November 30, 2018, from 4-7 P.M.

A memorial service officiated by Chaplain Jan Costello will be held at the Central Presbyterian Church in Petersburg at 4 P.M. on Saturday, December 1, 2018.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the PORTA Foundation, the Central Presbyterian Church of Petersburg, the First Christian Church of Petersburg, or a charity of the donor's choice.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV **30**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Hurley Funeral Home - Petersburg
122 West Douglas Avenue
Petersburg, IL 62675
(217) 632-2500
<https://www.hurleyfh.com/>

Memorial Service

DEC **1**. 4:00 PM (CT)

Central Presbyterian Church of Petersburg
210 W. Douglas
Petersburg, IL 62675

Tribute Wall



“ *William "Jerry" Davis*

October 12, 2022 at 03:07 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Jerry" Davis.*



January 01, 2019 at 02:36 PM



“ *Jerry will always be remembered for his fantastic friendliness and super sense of humor.*

We are very blessed to have had Jerry and Connie in our lives, both as professional educators and as personal friends. They valued all aspects of education: core academics, fine arts, vocational, and athletics. Their positive influence on students as well as on fellow educators was tremendous. What wonderful role models!
Dave & Hilda Tanner

Hilda Taner - December 02, 2018 at 02:04 PM



“ *Mark & Mona Stewart lit a candle in memory of William "Jerry" Davis*



Mark & Mona Stewart - December 01, 2018 at 05:12 PM

MS

“ so sorry for your Loss, Holly, Bailey & Serge, Connie & Jerry were both wonderful people, they will be missed by everyone. No better gift for Connie to have Jerry in heaven for her birthday. Peace be with your family

Mark & Mona Stewart - December 01, 2018 at 05:10 PM

JS

“ Jerry was my basketball coach at Bethel, MO in 1962-63. So glad he and Connie were able to attend my class 50th Anniversary in 2014. Really enjoyed visiting with them on that occasion. Two wonderful people.
Janet Schroer

janet Schroer - December 01, 2018 at 02:14 PM

GB

“ Jerry and I grew up in the same neighborhood in Mt Sterling and shared many experiences together. Jerry was a good athlete and could beat me in everything. When he broke his right arm I thought now I could beat him but by a couple of weeks he could throw as well with his left arm. My brothers and I and Jerry served as ushers at Mt Sterling Presbyterian Church. After I enlisted in the Airforce I had not seen Jerry for many years. He contacted my brother Glenn and we meet for lunch at Olive Garden about 10 years ago. George (ted) Barker

George T Barker - November 30, 2018 at 04:32 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of William "Jerry" Davis.*



November 30, 2018 at 12:39 PM



“ *To the Davis family—Your parents were so great to be around. Of course when you have the “best teacher ever” as a Mom and a great guy like Jerry for a Dad you already knew that. Even in their last years at Sunny Acres they were a joy to be around. They were on the same hall as my Dad so we visited often. I know you have many great memories that will carry you through this time of sadness. Sympathy and Prayers. Kathie Williams Blair. Class of 72.*

Kathie Blair - November 30, 2018 at 12:04 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss my thoughts and prayers are with the Davis family. Kris Crickett Rebbe Parkes*

Kris Parkes - November 29, 2018 at 09:44 PM



“ *him and connie were 2 of the nicest people you would ever meet he loved trying to give me a hard time when i waited on them but it was all in fun he will be missed prayers tfor the davis family*

janet petersen - November 29, 2018 at 08:24 PM

JH

“ Jerry interviewed me for a job in 1969 and hired me. Then I got to know his wife and family. Connie and I taught together for years. We talked about students and politics and life through many years. It is sad to realize they are both now gone but I would be much sadder if I had never gotten to know them and treasure their friendship. Our blessings to his wonderful family.

Judy Hurdle - November 29, 2018 at 06:12 PM

JG

Connie and Jerry were good friends of Lee and I and we spent many hours on our Houseboat. One night they decided to stay overnight and Connie wanted to sleep on top of the boat with the mosquitos. Jerry rolled his eyes but survived but we did have fun.

june Gamage - November 29, 2018 at 08:39 PM