



Gerald N. Austin

March 7, 1947 - January 2, 2025

Gerald “Jerry” Austin, age 77, of Saline, Michigan passed away peacefully at Hospice Home of Lenawee on Thursday, January 2, 2025 in the arms of his wife and surrounded by his four children. Jerry was born March 7, 1947 to Hugh and Della (Teachout) Austin and grew up on the Austin Apple Orchard in Saline. On August 2, 1974 he married Jan Cochrane and became “Guy-Daddy” to her two boys. They later welcomed two daughters to complete their family of six. Jerry was a very proud veteran of the United States Navy. He worked for the City of Saline for over 35 years and retired from his position of Superintendent of Water Production and Pollution Control in 2002. Jerry was an avid bowler and a 2002 inductee of the Ann Arbor Bowling Association Hall of Fame. He enjoyed camping trips with his family, singing in the church choir, floating in the pool while singing ridiculous songs he made up, and being his grandkids’ number one fan at all of their sporting events. Jerry was a member of Milan Baptist Church and the American Legion Post 322. He was preceded in death by his parents, Hugh and Della Austin; brother, Gene Austin; brother-in-law, Vic Guenther; nephew, Mike Guenther; and father-in-law, Ben Cochrane. Jerry is survived by his wife of fifty years, Jan Austin; children, Jim Austin, Tim (Renee) Austin, Kristy (Jaime) Vanderpool, and Kari Grounds; his grandchildren, Jonah and Domyan Austin (Jim), Breana and Bradley Austin (Tim), Chase Cundiff (Kristy), and Reese, Drew, Reagan, and Tyler Grounds (Kari); his sisters, Kay Guenther and Jan (Jerry) Charter; brothers-in-law, Dale (Sue) Cochrane and

Derek (Lib) Cochrane; the mother-in-law he absolutely cherished, Donna Cochrane; and many nieces, nephews, and dear friends.

Friends may join the family for a time of visitation on Thursday, January 9, 2025 from 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. at the Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home in Saline. Visitation will continue on Friday, January 10 from 10:00 A.M. until the time of Funeral Service at 11:00 A.M. Pastor Doug Strader will officiate the service. Military Honors will be provided under the auspices of the Veteran's Honor Guard of Washtenaw County. Burial will follow the service and will take place in Oakwood Cemetery in Saline. A luncheon will also be held following the service at the Saline American Legion Post #322. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in his name may be made to Hospice of Lenawee, 1903 Wolf Creek Highway, Adrian, MI 49221, or to Disabled American Veterans P.O. Box 14301 Cincinnati, OH 45250-0301. To leave a memory you have of Jerry, to sign his guestbook or for directions please visit www.rbfhsalinee.com

Cemetery Details

Oakwood Cemetery

227 West Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 9. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Visitation

JAN 10. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Funeral Service

JAN 10. 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM (ET)

Robison-Bahnmler Funeral Home & Cremation Services
301 E Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176
(734) 429-9760
rbfhsaline@hotmail.com
<https://www.rbfhsaline.com>

Luncheon

JAN 10. 12:15 PM (ET)

Saline American Legion
320 West Michigan Ave.
Saline, MI 48176
<http://www.salinelegion.org/>

Graveside Service

JAN 10. 12:15 PM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Oakwood Cemetery
227 W Michigan Ave
Saline, MI 48176

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I will never forget the good times I had playing with Jan and Jerry as a child. I wish him a peaceful journey to whatever lies beyond. 🙏

Doris Johnson Siegmann - January 12, 2025 at 02:06 PM

JC

“ In our grief, may we celebrate Jerry's life, all he was and did, and celebrate that he is now with God. Jan Charter (Jerry's sister)

Jan Charter - January 08, 2025 at 11:38 AM



“ 5 files added to the album Jerry Austin



Kristy Vanderpool - January 06, 2025 at 02:49 PM

MH

“ when I was with the City of Saline, I worked rather closely with Jerry, and always found him to be a man of integrity, good humor and commitment to duty. My deepest condolences to his family.

Mark Hopper

Mark Hopper - January 06, 2025 at 02:41 PM

CB

“ Jerry was the Saline High Girls Bowling coach in 2009 and 2010 when our daughter Charlotte was on the team. She had very little bowling experience and he was a great coach. Always encouraging and helpful. Our deepest condolences. Charles, Cindy and Charlotte Baxter

Cynthia L Baxter - January 06, 2025 at 12:13 PM

BA

“ Jerry was a true gentleman in every aspect and will be greatly missed by his "bowling family". I cherish the memories we made through with our trips to the National Bowling Tournaments throughout the years.

Becky & Dennis Arend - January 06, 2025 at 11:04 AM

DL

“ Those who have shown us love, brought us joy, and made us laugh, have given us the lasting gifts of a beautiful life - and blessed our memories forever. Our Sincere Sympathy.



Dan & Anna LaMont - January 06, 2025 at 09:13 AM

JF

“ Our Mountain Rescue NC family would like to send our thoughts, love, prayers, and condolences to the entire Austin family! You are so very loved and we are all praying for comfort and strength in the days to come. Your Father was such a special man and you are all a legacy of his character, love and faithfulness. We thank God for the opportunity to meet you all this past fall and become instant family. Sending many love and hugs to y'all! ❤️

Jennifer Fredell-Saucier - January 05, 2025 at 05:29 PM

SE

“ Jan you know how much I love that awesome husband of yours. My heart aches at his loss but soars at the realization that he is fully himself in heaven. Love and prayers and ALWAYS hugs to you. 💙



Shaheen Eisenstein - January 05, 2025 at 02:55 PM

LJ

“ To Jan and family - We were very sad to hear of Jerry's death and are so sorry for your loss. You were all such wonderful neighbors to our parents, Bob and Elaine Heiserman, during their later years. They loved living next door to you and we all have fond memories of your family. Jerry and the rest of your family could not have been more generous or thoughtful to our mom and dad and the rest of the family. Our hearts go out to you during this sad time. Fondly, Sally, Sidni, and Linda Heiserman

Linda Jones - January 04, 2025 at 01:53 PM



Linda,
We all loved growing up next to your parents, we speak of them often. Thank you for the kind words for my dad. -Kristy (Austin) Vanderpool

January 05, 2025 at 01:18 PM

EM

“ Jerry was a member of SHS Class of 65. I remember him in Band and an all around great guy. Jan and family, we are so sorry for your loss. Tom enjoyed bowling with Jerry. He kept me up to date on his coming and goings. He will be missed by many. Tom and Elaine Masters

Elaine Masters - January 03, 2025 at 08:04 PM

SH

*sending sincere condolences to
Jerry's family. You have a lot of memories to cherish.
Jerry Sherrie Hill*

Sherrie Hill - January 09, 2025 at 08:21 PM

GP

*Back in the day Jerry & i met while taking Physical therapy. Noticed I
had Navy on and struck up conversation about Navy naturally, and
convinced him to join our Washtenaw County Vietnam Veterans assoc.
Fair winds and following seas Jerry
George Perrault*

george perrault - January 10, 2025 at 10:52 AM