



## Eugene J. Gillam

December 13, 1933 - December 27, 2020

### Eugene J. Gillam 1933—2020

Eugene J. Gillam, 87, of Rockford went to be with his Lord and Savior on December 27, 2020. Born on December 13, 1933 in Phoenix, AZ; son of Eugene and Marie (Gaskill) Gillam. Graduate of Phoenix Union High School and Arizona State University. Gene served in the United States Army. Married to Helen Scurlock on August 22, 1958. Gene retired from teaching after 35 years in the Long Beach Unified School District at Millikan and Poly High Schools, where he taught English and Public Speaking. He then substitute taught in Phoenix. After leaving AZ to live near his daughter and family in what he considered the frozen tundra of northern IL, he attended Heartland Community Church where he was active in leading small groups. Survived by his wife, Helen; daughter, Robin (Timothy) Benskin; grandchildren, Megan (Josh) Kelly, Branden (Anna) Benskin; great grandchildren, Ezekiel and Judah Kelly. Preceded in death by his parents and sister, JoAnn Gillam. The family is grateful to Northern Illinois Hospice and Visiting Angels for the loving care they provided. A Celebration of Life will be held at 10:00 am, Sat., Jan. 30 at Central Christian Church, 2460 Milwaukee Rd, Beloit, WI 53511. Grace Funeral & Cremation Services assisted the family. Share a memory or condolence at [www.graceFH.com](http://www.graceFH.com). In lieu of flowers, the family would be honored if you would make a donation to House of Grace (a Haitian orphanage), via Central Christian Church at the address above.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JAN **30**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Central Christian Church  
2460 Milwaukee Rd.  
Beloit, IL 53511

# Tribute Wall

LM

“ *Gene remains in our hearts as a man who focused on what really matters to God: people.*

*He was driven by genuine concern for anyone that crossed his path in life's journey.*

*I experienced his patient guidance as he and Helen reached out to me, helping me navigate difficulties in various ways.*

*Gene, we miss you terribly, hold you close to our hearts, and clench tightly the truths that you so eloquently taught us.*

*Thank you for caring when many would've stopped.*

*Helen, I love you and sooo wish I could be there to hug you!!!! Sending prayers and hugs!!!*

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**Liz Morales** - January 28, 2021 at 02:10 PM

BE

“ *I was honored to be Gene's pizza lady friend! We had many differences but we found common ground in Christ. Gene, you will be sorely missed by all who had the privilege of knowing you.*

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**Bev** - January 11, 2021 at 11:55 PM