



Roger Lewis Gray

January 13, 1935 - December 29, 2012

Roger L. Gray, 77, of Rockford died on December 29, 2012 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center. "As Roger's wife, I have the privilege to write the obituary for my husband. It is easy to give you the basic information of his life, but I cannot begin to tell you what this man has brought to the lives of his family. He prayed with us, laughed with us, cried with us and always supported us completely. We teased him, embarrassed him and loved him deeply." Born on January 13, 1935 in Freeport, son of George Gerald and Jessie Marie (Hornbogen) Gray. Graduate of Freeport High School class of 1953. United in Marriage on August 21, 1954 to Marlene Anne Sleep at the First Congregational Church, Brodhead, WI. Obtained his Associate of Applied Technology from Freeport Community College in 1965, and Associate Degree in Fine Arts, from Rock Valley College in 2008. He also studied watercolor technique at The American Academy of Arts, Chicago. Formerly employed at Micro Switch in Freeport. Owner of Shostrom Signs since 1975. Retired from Williams Manny Company where he was a Benefits Consultant. Member of First Evangelical Free Church. Roger enjoyed life, teaching watercolor classes at Rock Valley College, painting (watercolor and oils), sailing, reading, playing tennis and golf, learning the art of fly fishing, cheering on the Bears, and was happiest surrounded by his family. He was active in the Rockford Noon Lions, serving as the past president, zone chair, regional chair and a Melvin Jones Scholar. He was involved in the Boy Scouts, serving as a Life Scout and Scout Master, the Illinois Sign Association, as a board member

and the Christians Business Men's Committee, where he was a board member and past chair. He served as a 10-year-Chef with '100 Men Who Cook' fundraiser for the Rockford Literacy Council. Survived by his wife, Marlene; children Craig (Helen) Gray of Rockford, Candyce (Mike Takamori) Gray of Bloomington, Cynthia Gray of Kingston, WA; grandchildren, Andrew (Danielle), Sean, Taylor Gray; great grandchild, Chloe Gray. Preceded in death by his parents; son, Christopher Gray; and brothers, Robert and Frederick. Memorial Visitation on Friday, January 4, 2013 from 1-3 p.m. at First Evangelical Free Church, 2223 North Mulford Rd. Rockford. A special thank you to the physicians and nursing staff at OSF St. Anthony's 4-East for their outstanding care and comfort provided the last couple of weeks of his life. Grace Funeral & Cremation Services served our family, and we are grateful for their compassionate care. Memorials may be made to Center for Sight and Hearing
P.O. Box 5944 Rockford, IL 61125-0944. To share a memory or condolence online, visit www.graceFH.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 4. 1:00 AM - 3:00 AM (CT)

First Evangelical Free Church
2223 North Mulford Road
Rockford, IL 61107

Tribute Wall

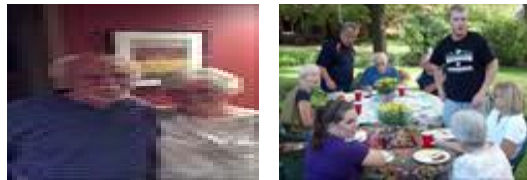
JB

“ *Evidence of wonderful parents are caring and generous children. Roger Gray's love continues... "Be still and know that I am God".*
Jenni and David Bateman

Jenni Bateman - January 03, 2013 at 06:56 PM

SG

“ *2 files added to the album Random cool pics*



Sean Gray - January 02, 2013 at 07:48 PM

PK

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with the entire Gray family.*

The Koda's
(Albert, Vicky, Paula and John Trescot)

Paula Koda - January 02, 2013 at 04:06 PM

SC

“ Roger and Marlene "Gray"ced my life for many years as my dear neighbors on Westchester Dr. in Rockford. We shared meals and memories and always delighted in Marlene's outstanding pies...whatever the season! He and I shared a love of watercolors; he was the artist and I was the crafter! I shall miss him and our spirited conversations. My heart is with Marlene and their wonderful family as they learn to live in this world without Roger.



Sherry Campbell

Sherry Campbell - January 02, 2013 at 03:20 PM

DJ

“ Roger was a true friend.....always willing to help.....always faithful in his testimony. His life affected many in such a Godly way....including mine, which I am so grateful for.

We will see him again.....and in the meantime have good memories and his example to guide us.

denny & evie johnson

Denny Johnson - January 02, 2013 at 11:31 AM

NC

“ Norma Coffman lit a candle in memory of Roger Lewis Gray



Norma Coffman - January 02, 2013 at 09:48 AM

RM

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Ruby and Dave Mathieu - December 31, 2012 at 01:11 PM