



# Gerald C. McKinnon

MAY 16, 1947 - MAR 24, 2009



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## **Gerald C. McKinnon**

MAY 16, 1947 - MAR 24, 2009

**D**ecatur-Gerald C. McKinnon, 61, of Decatur, passed away March 24, 2009 in Hudson, Illinois.

Memorial services to celebrate Gerald's life will be held at a later date. Per his wishes cremation rites will be accorded. Graceland/Fairlawn Funeral Home is assisting the family with these arrangements. Online condolences and memories may be shared with the family at [www.gracelandfairlawn.com](http://www.gracelandfairlawn.com).

Gerald was born May 16, 1947 in Dover, New Hampshire the son of John and Gladys (Gieau) McKinnon. He was employed as a builder at Bridgestone-Firestone for almost thirty years. He enjoyed playing pool, shooting darts, and gardening. He married Joan Painter May 13, 1994 in Decatur.

He leaves behind his wife Joan, daughters; Kelli Starr of St. Joseph, Illinois, and Jennifer Hecht and husband Todd of O'Fallon, Missouri, step-son; Adam Smothers and wife Ashley of Decatur, step-daughter; Holly Smothers of South City, California, brother; Donald McKinnon and wife Rosemary of North Berwick, Maine, sisters; Shirley Robidas and husband Armand and Kathy Mullen and husband Dennis all of Dover, New Hampshire, father-in-law Jack Painter of Decatur, seven grandchildren, and several brother and sister in laws.

He was preceded in death by his parents and granddaughter.



## Tribute Wall

**Gerald C. McKinnon**

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HO

**Holly** posted:

I remember my step dad very well he was funny and nice. He was like a real father to me and my brother. I can remember his favorite radio station and also how him and my mom helped me when I was going to school. I will always remember watering his tomato plants.

May 2 at 2:49 PM

ST

**Steve, Linda & Kim** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Jerry will be missed by all of us.

March 31 at 4:26 PM

GT

**Gary F. Tuttle** posted:

Rest in Peace, My Friend, Gary Hi Joan, Jerry was my best man at my Wedding in 1967. God Bless you and your Family.

March 31 at 12:50 PM

MP

**Melanie Phillips** posted:

As many have mentioned, Jerry had a memorable smile. There was never a time when I saw Jerry that he didn't smile and ask how I was doing. He always seemed to make everyone else smile too. To Joni & the rest of the family, my thoughts and prayers are with you through this hard time. ~Melanie

March 29 at 1:25 PM

RS

**Ray And Donna Shafer** posted:

Donna and I have many fond memories of Jerry, Linda and the girls. We also had many good times together. Jerry, Shorty Cordray, Jiles Nichols and I bowled together and also formed a traveling basketball team. We would play teams from Mattoon and area towns. Jerry was also one of my fishing buddies. I will never forget his sly grin. It always reminded me of the little kid that got into the cookie jar. He was always a good friend and will be missed. Our deepest sympathy to Kelli, Jennifer and his extended family.

March 29 at 4:01 AM



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JM

**Joyce Mcneill** posted:

To Linda, Kelli, Jennifer and Jerry's extended family. Jerry was married to my niece Linda (Land) Schiff. They were the cutest couple ever and he'll be remembered by me as a very gentle soul, hard worker, and caring person. He was handsome and had the cutest grin. I've not been in touch with him for many years but treasure his girls Kelli and Jennifer and my niece Linda. My deepest sympathy to all of you at this time.

March 28 at 4:05 PM

HS

**Holly Smothers** posted:

Jerry was like a real dad to me. If I needed help or advice he was there. Even when I was going through my toughest times he was there for me. When I was going to school I had his support. I miss him and love him very much.

March 28 at 9:45 AM

SB

**Suzanne Beaupre** posted:

My uncle was one of my most favorite people in this world. He had a special way about him, that always showed love & compassion to everyone who knew. Kind heart, kind words, and a crooked, ole McKinnon smile that would brighten anyone's day. I will miss him dearly, once my heart realizes that he's gone forever...as for now, I'm still in shock. I love you Uncle Gerry...:( May you rest in peace

March 27 at 6:41 PM

MB

**Mary Ann & Cliff Blankenship** posted:

I will always remember Jerry for being so good to my parents Frank & Anna, his next door neighbors for years. He was very special to them. We also have been neighbors for years and thought a lot of Jerry. May he rest in peace

March 27 at 4:58 PM

VL

**Vicki, Doug And Matthew Lehmann** posted:

Jen, Kel, Joanie and all: I am so, so sorry for your loss. You guys have experienced so much pain. He really was such a wonderful man. I know he will be at peace now with Grammie and Grampie McKinnon. Our love to all of you.

March 27 at 4:17 PM



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KS

**Kelli Mckinnon Starr** posted:

I have so many wonderful memories of my dad: him pulling me on my snowsled all over Sullivan, tickle fights and eating pizza rolls on Mom's bowling night, his love of Christmas lights, our trips to New Hampshire in that horrible Gremlin, letting me and Jen get crispy-fried after hours at the beach with no sunscreen, his awesome tuna sandwiches....too many memories to list. I miss him so much.

March 26 at 6:12 PM

KE

**Keegan** posted:

My uncle Jerry had a lot of great memories with me the one I liked the best was when I walked into his house and he gave me a "noogie" he also gave me a diamond earring. He was a great man and will be missed by all who knew him. Uncle Jerry we miss you!

March 26 at 5:01 PM

LS

**Linda Schiff** posted:

Kelli & Jennifer..I saw your dad's eyes when you were born; I saw him tickle you and make you laugh; I saw him change your diapers; :o) He loved you both very much and I know he was very proud to have you as his daughters. God Bless You...

March 26 at 4:49 PM

LS

**Linda Schiff** posted:

Joanie, you're in my thoughts and prayers. My deepest sympathy to you and Adam.

March 26 at 4:40 PM

DP

**David And Michelle Painter** posted:

Jerry was a fun loving guy who will be missed by all that knew him.

March 26 at 3:55 PM



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KK

**Kathy Jeff & Keegan** posted:

Jerry was a kind, gentle person. When our son, Jesse was serving in Iraq, he called daily to check on us and see how things were going. He never forgot or lost track. He was a good man, and we loved him. Jerry, you will be sadly missed. We love you...

March 26 at 12:06 PM

LL

**Larry Livingston** posted:

I always admired Jerry's love of life and appreciation of lighthouses. He worked very hard at Firestone, and had a keen mind for labor relations. He was admired by his peers, and will be remembered for his positive contributions to his family, his work, and his sheer enjoyment of life.

March 26 at 8:59 AM

AS

**Adam Smothers** posted:

I love you Jerry! You were always there for me and I will never forget how good you were to me. You always treated me as if I were your own son. I just hope you know that you were a great Dad.

March 26 at 5:58 AM

MM

**Mick & Mary Matlock** posted:

Jennifer & Kelly, we were so sorry to hear of your loss. You will be in our thoughts and prayers.  
Mick & Mary

March 26 at 4:06 AM

BL

**Bill Land** posted:

Jerry McKinnon family—May the blessings of the Lord comfort you in your time of sorrow——  
Bill Land

March 26 at 3:59 AM

JM

**Jennifer Hecht (Mckinnon)** posted:

DAD, We love you, you will be missed! Rest in peace.....

March 25 at 5:19 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Gerald by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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