



Gary Gene Justesen

December 7, 1942 - April 1, 2025

Updated Link: Gary's service is viewable at <https://vimeo.com/1078020344>

Gary Gene Justesen, age 82, of Fargo, ND, formerly of Litchville, ND, passed away peacefully with family by his side on April 1, 2025, at Chandler Regional Medical Center. He was born on December 7, 1942, in Chicago, IL, to Ray and Cora (Leidall) Justesen.

Gary graduated from Litchville High School in 1960. He then joined the Army National Guard and pursued a business degree from Interstate Business College in Fargo, ND. He began a long and dedicated career at Litchville State Bank, where he worked for over 30 years. Alongside his banking career, Gary proudly continued the family farming business, taking over operations from his father.

On June 15, 1963, Gary married the love of his life, Nancy Olafson, in Litchville. Together they made their home there for over 55 years, raising their three children: Terry, Tori, and Nicole. In January 2021, Gary and Nancy relocated to Fargo.

Gary was a man who lived life fully. He enjoyed golfing, traveling, summers at the lake, playing cards, and spending time with family and friends. One of his greatest joys was being with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren,

creating memories that will be treasured for generations.

Deeply involved in his community, Gary served on several local boards. He was a devoted member of First Lutheran Church in Litchville, as well as the El Zagel Shrine, Masonic Lodge #7, Eagles, and Elks.

True to the words of his favorite song, "My Way," Gary lived life on his own terms. He left this world with grace and dignity, surrounded by love. We are forever grateful for the 82 years we shared with him — years filled with love, laughter, and wisdom.

Gary is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Nancy; his children Terry (Lori) Justesen, Tori (Buck) Archer, and Nicole Justesen; his sister Vicky (Bob) Hlubek; eight grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Ginny (Clay) Pollert, Connie (Marc) Ford, Debbie (Lee) Ulstad; brother-in-law Harlee (Danita) Olafson; and many cherished nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents; Cora Leidall, Ray Justesen and Millie Justesen, daughter-in-law Pam (Flatlie) Justesen, sister Donette Klever, and his parents-in-law, Leonard and Nora Olafson.

"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal; love leaves a memory no one can steal."

A funeral service will be held at 1:00 PM on Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at Lutheran Church of the Cross in West Fargo, ND. Visitation will take place from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the church, prior to the service. Gary will be laid to rest at Memory Gardens in Valley City, ND.

Arrangements are entrusted to the care of Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel in Valley City. An online guestbook is available at [www.olivernathanchapel.com]

(<http://www.olivernathanchapel.com>).

Previous Events

Gathering of family and friends

APR 22. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Lutheran Church of the Cross West Fargo
1402 16th St E
West Fargo, ND 58078
<https://lcc-wf.com/>

Funeral Service

APR 22. 1:00 PM (CT)

Lutheran Church of the Cross West Fargo
1402 16th St E
West Fargo, ND 58078
<https://lcc-wf.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *View and Download the Funeral Program*

Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - October 16, 2025 at 10:22 AM



“ *Oliver - Nathan Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Gary Gene Justesen*



Oliver-Nathan Funeral Chapel - April 17, 2025 at 04:25 PM

CO

“ *I mostly remember Gary as teller in Litchville ND Bank and early High school days, great person in my life He will be missed by everyone who knew him
Clayton Olson Billings Mt*

Clayton Olson - May 03, 2025 at 08:38 PM

LS

“ *To a life well lived, filled with love, cards, convertibles and cherished memories. Our love and sympathy, Mark, Lara, Skylar & Silje*



Lara Sorgaard - April 22, 2025 at 10:24 AM

YF

“ Your Bingo Friends purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gary Gene Justesen.



Your Bingo Friends - April 21, 2025 at 11:31 AM

YF

“ Your Bingo Friends planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Gene Justesen.

Your Bingo Friends - April 21, 2025 at 11:31 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Gene Justesen.



April 21, 2025 at 11:04 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gary Gene Justesen.

April 21, 2025 at 11:04 AM

MM

“ Mike and Vicki Metcalf purchased the *Pretty Pleasure* for the family of Gary Gene Justesen.



Mike and Vicki Metcalf - April 18, 2025 at 11:02 AM

BM

“ *Fairwell my brother.*

Brian Mindt - April 14, 2025 at 01:51 PM

A“

“ Amy Schmidt Solvie AKA “turd” purchased the *Full Of Love Bouquet* for the family of Gary Gene Justesen.



Amy Schmidt Solvie AKA “turd” - April 12, 2025 at 09:56 PM