



# **Gary Wayne Bennett** **Obituary**

APR 8, 1944 - MAR 2, 2013



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**G**ary Wayne Bennett, was born April 8, 1944, at the Centerville Hospital, Centerville, Iowa, the son of J. Harold and Carmen (Gould) Bennett and passed away March 2, 2013, at the age of 68.

He was a 1962 graduate of ACL High School, where he was an outstanding football player. Gary had a great love and knowledge of country music; Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings, Hank Williams and Jimmy Rodgers were his favorites.

He was united in marriage to Sandra Honn and to this marriage three children were born: Andrea Susan, Randal James and Melissa Marie. They later divorced. Gary worked at Brammer's Cabinet Factory, Alcoa and Terminal Ice and Cold Storage while he lived in Bettendorf.

After returning home to Wayne County, he hauled milk for Lyle Thomas, later purchasing the milk route. In 1979 he was married to Rhonda Wray and they had two sons, Justin Wayne and Matthew Charles. For 22 years he worked for the Wayne County Secondary Roads Department.

After a massive heart attack he retired. Gary was exceptionally proud of his son Justin's guitar playing, which in his words, 'Is better than I ever was.' He always looked forward to seeing his son Matt play sports, especially football, carrying on the full back tradition.

Gary enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren, giving each one a special nickname and showing them his love of nature. Gary was preceded in death by his parents, J. Harold and Carmen Bennett, son, Randal; daughter, Melissa; and mother-in-law Coleen Wray.

He is survived by his wife, Rhonda of Allerton; sons, Justin and wife Jessica, of Ames, and Matt and wife Dawn of Melcher; daughter Andrea Rich and friend Tom; grandchildren: Miranda Rich, Jennifer Copeland, Jacob and Jada Rains, Julia, Joelle and Josiah Bennett of Ames and Dayne and Kinley Bennett of Melcher; father-in-law, Charles Wray of Elk Point, South Dakota; brother Raymond Bennett of Allerton; sister Judy and Dennis Annis of Corydon; brother-in-law, Russell



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and Roxie Wray of Mapleton; sister-in-law, Ruth and Kevin Pitkin of Harlan, several nieces and nephews and many other friends and relatives.

Book Travel to Services To send flowers or a memorial gift to the family of Gary Wayne Bennett Obituary please visit our Sympathy Store.



## Tribute Wall

## Gary Wayne Bennett Obituary

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**Thomas Funeral Home** posted:

October 21 at 2:48 PM



**Thomas Funeral Home** shared an album called **Obituary Wall**.



October 13 at 3:34 PM



**Ben Taylor - Des Moines, Ia - Friend** posted:

So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. I was one of the scrawny freshman when he was a big senior. His Class of 1962 had a great group of people in it. Already missing too many of them.

March 4 at 7:00 PM



**Richard Glenn Robertson - Murrieta, Ca - Cousin** posted:

so sorry to hear of garys passing. we had alot of good times growing up at family get togethers, our deepest condolences to all of his family. rich and priscilla robertson

March 4 at 7:00 PM



**Don And Judy Roberts - Urbandale, Ia - Classmate And Friend** posted:

Bennett Family So sad to hear of Gary's passing. So many memories of the past comes to mind. He was a great friend and classmate. Our prayers are with you all at this time. Don and Judy Roberts

March 4 at 7:00 PM



**Pete Hayden - Camdenton, Mo - Friend From Lineville** posted:

Gary was a true friend from the ACL football team of 62. He welcomed me to the team and was a good friend throughout that year. It was such a great experience for me to see and visit with him last Septmeber (2012). We shared many memories from that great senior year and he showed me pictures of his kids and grandkids and was so very proud. I know he will be missed by many people as he had a way of makng friends. Karla Taylor Hayden and I send our deepest sympathy to his family at this time of their loss. Pete Hayden, ACL class of 1962

March 3 at 7:00 PM



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JC

**Jim And Kathie Robertson - Davenport, Ia - Cousin** posted:

Rhonda and Family, God is watching over you throughout this difficult time. We are thinking of you. Our sincere sympathy. Jim and Kathie

March 3 at 7:00 PM

PC

**Pam Arthur - Corydon, Ia** posted:

So, so very sorry. SINCEREST Condolences. May the peace that comes from the memories of the love you shared comfort you now and in the days ahead.

March 3 at 7:00 PM

MM

**Marsha K Palmer - Madison, Sd** posted:

Growing up we were together while our parents were playing 'Pitch'. Of course, we had to find things to do to entertain ourselves, before TV. Good memories! Gary, rest is peace!

March 3 at 7:00 PM

TC

**Terry And Pam Cobb - Linn Creek, Mo - A Great Friend And Classmate** posted:

Gary 'Smiley' seemed to always have a smile for every situation. He loved being a part of the 'Class of 62' and cherished being with our classmates at the various reunions. We will all miss him, that is for sure. God Bless Gary and his family.

March 3 at 7:00 PM

FC

**Fran Henderson - Newton, Ia - Classmate** posted:

Gary and two other classmates, Bill Taylor and Robert Moore, and I shared a mutual birthday. I have many birthday memories!

March 3 at 7:00 PM

LC

**Larry And Elaine Abel - Riceville, Ia - Classmate** posted:

Gary Bennett Family, We were saddened to receive word of Gary's passing. We have lost a good friend and classmate. Gary's zest for living and love of family will always remain in your fond memories. May God grant peace, strength and understanding in your time of need.

March 3 at 7:00 PM



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**Bette Kuboushek** posted:

Rhonda and family, So sorry to hear of Gary's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. Your friend, Bette

March 2 at 7:00 PM



## Media

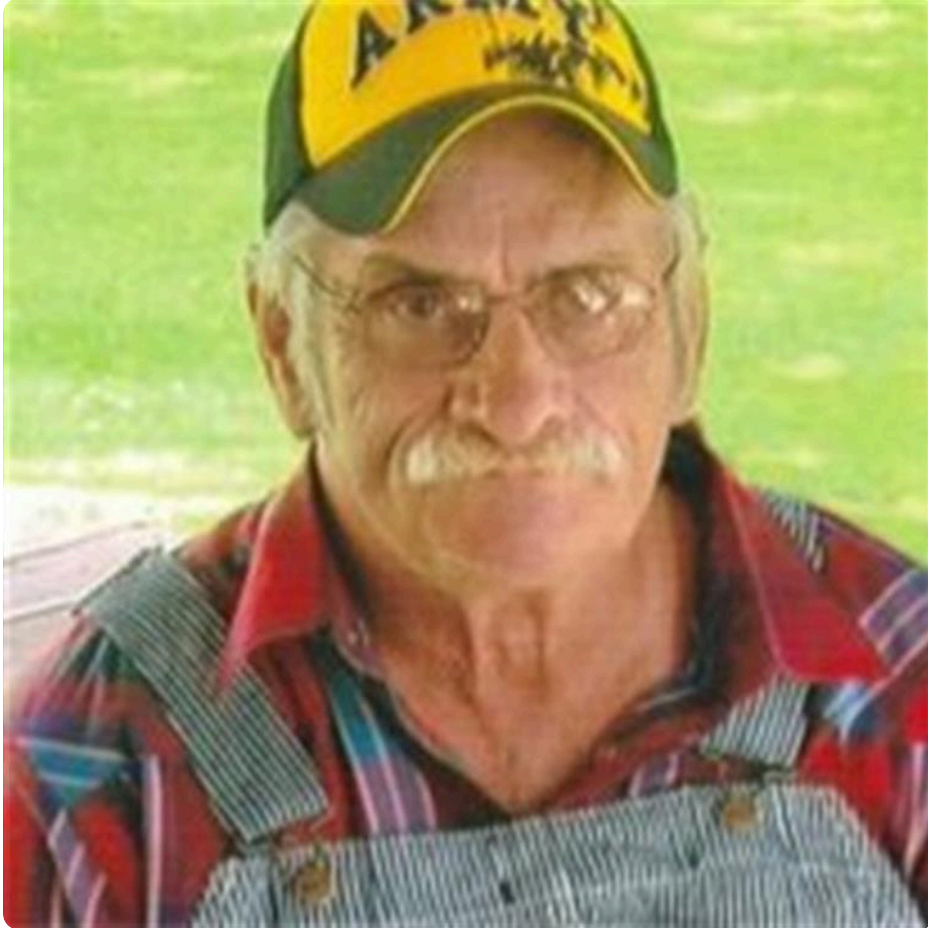
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Thomas Funeral Home shared a photo to the **Obituary Wall** album.

October 13 at 3:34 PM





## **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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