



## Garrick "Gary" Mishaga

November 10, 1940 - March 6, 2025

"I like November best, because it reminds me of me. ...I'm too old to fall in love, but ain't old enough to die..."

----Robert Ruark

"The Old Man and the Boy"

Alas, Garrick Mishaga, SJHS '58, now joins a long list of former classmates who succumbed to "STAY OFF PAGE THIRTEEN".

Garrick "Gary" Mishaga, born 84 years ago in Cleveland, Ohio, on November 10, 1940, the 164th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps. Gary was formerly of South Euclid, OH; of late a resident of Mentor, OH. The eldest of six children of Andrew and Antoinette (nee DiSanto) Mishaga, both deceased. Gary is survived by Ellen, his best friend and loving wife; privileged to have walked by her side for 27 years of marriage. They were married on Valentine's Day, 1998. Surviving him from his previous marriage are his sons, Garrick, Jr., (Susan), Springfield, OR, Michael (Lisa), Cleveland, OH and Joseph (Patrice), Chesterland, OH. Other surviving family members include his brothers, Richard (Paula), Newberg, OR, Andrew (Ramona), Houston, TX, Gregory (Tom), Tucson, AZ, and sister, Mary Elizabeth Gurule (John H.), Rio Rancho, NM, Ralph (deceased). Brother-in-law, Ronald DeCillo (Gloria), Strongsville, OH and numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews and cousins.

A proud and loyal son of St. Joseph High School, Cleveland, Ohio; Gary graduated in 1958. During his high school years, he was an honor student, varsity athlete in football and track, and Student Council and Senior Class President. He cherished his days at SJHS and maintained lifelong standing friendships throughout the years. After high school, he worked summers on the lake freighters, played half-back for a champion middle-weight Cleveland Muni-Football team, and taught 7th and 8th grades at Our Lady of Good Counsel and Gesu Parochial Schools. In 1965 he graduated from JCU with a BS/SS degree. At his 45th high school class reunion, his former classmates bestowed the lifetime honor of "58 PFL" (President for Life) as grateful recognition of his steadfast devotion and diligence to his graduating class. He also was a charter member of the SJHS '58 "Stay Off Page Thirteen Club, (Triskaidekaphobia Club) a quarterly luncheon club of St. Joe's '58 classmates established in circa 1983. In 2009, Garrick was inducted into the VASJ Hall of Fame. Gary had a colorful and varied career covering a variety of positions in the Manufacturing Industry, Food Service, Education and Business. Before he retired, as a Realtor and Real Estate Broker, his last 20 years of his 35 year real estate career were spent as an Inventory Specialist liquidating relocation and bank REO properties.

Later in life, Gary was best known for his affection of the outdoors and "hunting". "The man lived each season by the call of the wild". As a bow hunter and waterfowl and deer hunter, he pursued game in nine states, as well as, Canada, Argentina, SA, Honduras and Nicaragua, CA, and South Africa. In 2012, Gary fulfilled a "life time dream" of hunting plains game in South Africa. And while on safari in South Africa's Northern Cape Province, he took four trophies. Throughout his hunting life, his "conservation legacy" was to give back to the hunting community. He was a member, in good standing, of the Ashtabula Rod & Gun, Orwell Gun Club, and was a former Certified Master Instructor of Hunter Safety Education, State of Ohio.

Gary's political philosophies tended to be that of a constitutional, nationalistic conservative...borders, language, culture. He was a staunch defender of an "originalist" and "textualistic" interpretation of the United States Constitution, in particular the Bill of Rights. He believed the Second Amendment was the keystone to our freedoms. Even his vanity license plates, "R R2KBA", (Our Right to Keep and Bear Arms), reflected his belief. And as such, he was most proud to be a Life Member of the NRA.

The family will receive friends from 4-8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 11, 2025 at Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, 8466 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, 8560 Mentor Ave., Mentor, OH 44060. Please meet at the church.

Interment will be in Mentor Cemetery, Mentor, OH.

At his request, no flowers please. Contributions may be made in his memory to the Hunt of a Lifetime Foundation, P.O. Box 241, Harborcreek, PA 16421 or online at [huntofalifetime.org/donations](http://huntofalifetime.org/donations) or to the Marine Corps – Law Enforcement Foundation, Inc., online at [www.mc-lef.org/donate](http://www.mc-lef.org/donate) or to the Class of '58 Scholarship Fund, c/o VASJ High School, 18491 Lakeshore Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44119.

Offer condolences at [www.brunners.com](http://www.brunners.com).

Quotes:

"The best things in life are the people you love, the places you've seen, and

the memories you've made along the way".

"Deum Diligite Animalia Diligentes" (Honoring God by Honoring His Creatures)

# Cemetery Details

## Mentor Cemetery

6881 Hopkins Rd.  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 974-5733

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 11. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center  
8466 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 255-3401  
ajs@brunners.com  
<https://www.brunners.com/>

## Funeral Mass

MAR 12. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary Of The Assumption Church  
8560 Mentor Avenue  
Mentor, OH 44060  
(440) 255-3404  
<https://stmarysmentor.org/>

*Please meet at the church*

# Tribute Wall

PM

“ *What a man-what a life! Gary used to send me home from work with knife catalogs for my husband, who still asks about him. I'll never forget the day "the boss" tore down the Marilyn Monroe memorial Gary had set up in his cubicle, because we had Clients coming in. Garrick went ballistic , but calmly rebuilt the shrine just in time for the Clients to step out of the elevator. He had gained the admiration & respect of the entire office! We then proclaimed him "the last REAL man in America" !!!  
Our best thoughts and prayers for you and your family, my friend.  
Pam & Mike*

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**Pam Milani** - March 21, 2025 at 06:42 PM

RP

“ *May God bless your family with His peace and comfort.  
Rena Parker (co-worker of Bob Leighty)*

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**Rena M. Parker** - March 17, 2025 at 12:35 PM

BN

“ Gary had that welcoming smile that always brightened my day. Gary and I and our friend Toby used to meet for breakfast every few weeks. We would talk about hunting and fishing and all of the things that happened to be going on in our lives at the time.

*A few weeks ago Gary and I stood outside the Concord Family Restaurant in the freezing cold and made plans to go fishing when the weather warmed up. We also talked about taking a walk at Best Lake and going to more programs with the Geauga County Parks.*

*Sadly, things sometimes have a way of changing when you least expect it. Gary and I won't be able to go fishing or take that walk as we had planned, but now whenever I go fishing, or walk at Best Lake, I know my memories of the good times Gary and I shared throughout the years will come flooding back to me, and those memories of the times I shared with Gary will continue to brighten my days.*

*Brian Norcross*

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**Brian Norcross** - March 14, 2025 at 08:43 AM

HG

“ Gary was one of the finest men I've ever had the privilege to know. We enjoyed numerous waterfowl hunts on the Chesapeake bay, shooting at Weslaco Sportsmen's Club, and helping him hunt, in the later years, behind my house. Gary and I taught hundreds of kids Hunter Safety and his experiences always made the classes interesting. He was one of a kind and will be missed.



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**Howard Guerin** - March 09, 2025 at 06:42 AM

PC

*Gary came and helped out at a few of my Hunter Education classes. His knowledge and help was greatly appreciated. A true friend and instructor.*

**Paul Callender** - March 09, 2025 at 04:38 PM

JR

*Garrick made this world a better place. He will be missed. RIP Garrick*

**Joan Rebolj** - March 11, 2025 at 01:47 PM