



Gerald "Jerry" W. Watkins

December 11, 1938 - December 21, 2022

Gerald "Jerry" W. Watkins of Kirtland, OH, passed away at the age of 84 on December 21, 2022 at the David Simpson Hospice House in Cleveland. He was born December 11, 1938, in Kirtland, OH, Jerry was raised and educated in Cleveland and Euclid. After graduating from Euclid High School in 1957, he worked for Lincoln Electric until he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on February 10, 1960. He served primarily in Germany where he enjoyed traveling and meeting new people. After leaving the USAF on January 10, 1964, he returned to Euclid and, except for a brief period in Reno, NV, remained in Northeast Ohio where he finally settled in Kirtland in 1967.

Jerry loved the outdoors including hiking local and state parks, exploring The Bass Islands and Niagra Falls, Cleveland Indians games, drive-in movies and visiting family and friends around the country. He had a kind heart and could not ignore an animal, family member, or friend in need.

Loving father to his daughters, Coleen Watkins and Bonnie Lynn Watkins; a proud grandfather to Ajay Arya, Samantha Watkins (Solomon), and Chrystine Arotin (Sean). Also survived by sisters-in-law, Grace and Opal Watkins; best friend for several decades, Irene Conner; and many other loving family and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lloyd and Cleopha Frantz; brothers,

Charles and Bobby; sister, Marilyn Hayden; and grandson, Deven Arya.

A private family urn burial will take place at a later date in Kirtland North Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Jerry's name to the: Wounded Warrior Project; www.woundedwarriorproject.org/ or to Hospice of the Western Reserve; <https://www.hospicewr.org/>

Arrangements entrusted to the Brunner Sanden Deitrick Funeral Home & Cremation Center, Mentor, OH. Offer condolences at www.brunners.com.

Cemetery Details

Kirtland North Cemetery

9016 Chillicothe Rd.
Kirtland, OH 44094