



Gerhard Hansen

February 7, 1937 - August 28, 2019

Gerhard Hansen, 82, of Aroma Township in St. Anne, passed away Wednesday (Aug. 28, 2019) at his home surrounded by his loving family.

He was born Feb. 7, 1937, in Neumunster, Germany, a son of Karl and Paula Christensen Hansen. He married Lillian Jackson Coffman on Feb. 4, 1985. She survives.

Gerhard was a very proud American citizen, even though he was born in Germany. He came to America on Jan. 31, 1959, on a permanent visa. His uncle was his sponsor. He had to speak English. Ten months later, he received a letter from the president of the United States saying he needed to enlist, so Gerhard joined the U.S. Army in 1960 — the beginning of the Vietnam War. He served his country proudly. In 1974 Gerhard became a U.S. citizen; it was one of the proudest days of this life.

He was a graduate of the University of Illinois with high honors in mechanical engineering. Gerhard worked as a mechanical engineer manager for General Foods-Quakers-Latz in Kankakee and Eurskirchen, Germany.

He was an avid boater and fisherman, and he loved water skiing. Gerhard was a member of both Aroma Park Boat Club and Kankakee Valley Boat Club. He attended Peoples Church in Bourbonnais. Gerhard loved spending time

with family; and his grandchildren and great-grandchildren melted his heart.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his stepsons, Jeff (Lynetter) Coffman, David Coffman and Philip (Robin) Coffman; stepdaughter, Vicki Coffman Ravens (Pete) Stich; brother, Karl Heinz (Marita) Hansen; brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Chuck and Gwen Jackson; sisters-in-law and brother-in-law, Phyllis (Austin) Knecht and Thelma Alcorn; 12 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; nephews, Christian, Matthais and Louis Hansen, of Germany; and many nieces and nephews of his wife's family.

Preceding him in death were his parents, many brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, and several nieces and nephews.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of his life will be held at Aroma Park Boat Club on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Visitation from 11:30am to 4:00pm. A lunch will be at 1:00pm with Celebration of Life starting at 3:00pm. Nephew, Darrin Reed will be officiating. Funeral arrangements are by Jensen Funeral Home, Bourbonnais.

Memorials may be made to Aroma Park Boat Club, 199 Boat Club Road, Aroma Park, IL 60910; Kankakee Valley Boat Club, 1586 Cobb Blvd. Kankakee, IL 60901; or Hospice of Kankakee Valley, 482 Main St. NW, Bourbonnais, IL 60914.

The family would like to say, "a special thank you to all of the Hospice of Kankakee Valley employees and volunteers. Jerry, Gerhard loved your long visits so much, thank you." They would also like to thank everyone who sent cards and food, called and visited. "Your thoughtfulness is deeply appreciated."

Please sign his online guestbook jensenmemorialchapel.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 8. 11:30 AM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Aroma Park Boat Club
199 Boat Club Rd.
Aroma Park, IL 60910

Luncheon

SEP 8. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Aroma Park Boat Club
199 Boat Club Rd.
Aroma Park, IL 60910

Celebration of Life

SEP 8. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Aroma Park Boat Club
199 Boat Club Rd.
Aroma Park, IL 60910

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerhard Hansen*

October 08, 2023 at 04:39 PM



“ *Our condolences to Lil and family for your loss. We had many fun times with you in Florida and treasure those memories. R.I.P. Gerhard. Joe Lanoue and Michelle Levitt.*

Joe Lanoue - September 12, 2019 at 09:27 AM



“ *Randy & Pam Ravens Pekin IL lit a candle in memory of Gerhard Hansen*



Randy & Pam Ravens Pekin IL - September 11, 2019 at 10:38 PM



“ *Every condolence. May you know the love of God and be comforted by the Holy Spirit through this season. Kim & Jim Sheets formerly of Kankakee*

Kim - September 07, 2019 at 05:16 PM

PP

“ Pam Gound Pilbeam lit a candle in memory of Gerhard Hansen



pam gound pilbeam - September 07, 2019 at 10:27 AM

CS

“ Dear Lillian and family,

We are so sad to hear of Gerhard's passing. We think of all the fun times we had at the Boat Club. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and all your family. God Bless.

Benny & Charlene

Charlene Skeldon - September 06, 2019 at 05:55 PM

GK

“ To my dear Lillian and her family, I know this is been a long difficult journey for you. I will keep you in my prayers. I'm going to try to make it to the celebration, but not sure if I can. I will be with you in spirit and I love you

Glendal Kilbride - September 06, 2019 at 04:46 PM

TM

“ Tom Mallaney lit a candle in memory of Gerhard Hansen



Tom Mallaney - September 06, 2019 at 12:56 PM

BF

“ *My Love and Prayers are with you and your Family always! Miss you guys!*

Brenda Feller - September 06, 2019 at 11:49 AM

CB

“ *My condolence to the Hansen family*



Claude Burns - September 05, 2019 at 01:43 PM

LW

“ *Gary & Lois Warner*

*May God bless you and your whole family Lil.
Although he may be gone the light and warmth of his smile will live
on in our hearts along with the good memories.*

Lois Warner - September 05, 2019 at 12:15 PM

CM

“ *Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Lillian and the family. Gerhard was a great joy to be around. We always had a laugh and good time with him. He will truly be missed!*

Paul & Carol Mau

carol mau - September 05, 2019 at 08:40 AM



“ *Deepest heartfelt sympathy!! Great man who loved life.....He was a JOY to be around!!*

In His Name

*John O Heil
"Preach"*

John Heil - September 04, 2019 at 04:42 PM

GM

“ *Our community has lost one of its finest gentlemen. Gerhard's smile would light up any room, and he had such a great laugh that he freely shared with everyone around him. God gained another warrior at his side by calling Gerhard home. Our deepest condolences to his wife and family for your loss. May your memories bring more laughter than tears as the years pass. Rest in peace Gerhard.*

Gary & Rose Mitchell - September 04, 2019 at 10:16 AM