



Gerald "Jerry" Prince

September 21, 1943 - October 28, 2023

Gerald "Jerry" Prince, 80, of Zeeland, passed away on Saturday, October 28, 2023, at his home with his family by his side.

Gerald was born in Holland, on September 21, 1943, to Raymond and Dorothy (Elfers) Prince. He graduated from Holland High School and served his country in the U.S. Army. Jerry married Linda Lappinga on May 1, 1968, and they raised their four children in South Olive. Jerry worked at Charley's Market for many years, then at Edy's Ice cream prior to his retirement. Evergreen Commons was an important component of Jerry's life in the last 15 years. Evergreen was his place to volunteer, help, and connect with community people. Jerry was a man strong in his faith. He and Linda are members of Niekerk Christian Reformed Church. Jerry enjoyed spending time with family, and especially his grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his brother Roger Prince, and his sister Louise Scholten.

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Linda, their children: Tammy and Dave Grassmid, Tim and Kerri Prince, Tom and Jodi Prince, Susan and Kevin Sturgis; grandchildren: Ethan Grassmid, Rylea & David Aukema, Leah Prince, Trenton Prince, Sierra Prince, Bereket Prince, Logan Prince, Carson Prince, Colin & Mercedes Sturgis, Morgan Sturgis; great-grandchild Charli Sturgis, brothers: Howard and JoanE Prince, Ed and Wilma Prince, Will and Ann Prince, Bob Prince, Rick and Deb Prince; in-laws: Sally and Frank Visser,

Dave and Barb Lappinga; and many extended family and friends.

A service to honor the faith and life of Gerald Prince will be held at 11:00 am, Monday, November 6, 2023, at Niekerk Christian Reformed Church, 545 Country Club Road, Holland MI 49423. Visitation will be 2-4 & 6-8 pm, Sunday, November 5, at the Langeland-Sterenbergh Funeral Home, 315 E. 16th Street, Holland MI 49423. Memorial contributions may be made to Evergreen Commons.

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 5. 6:00 PM (ET)

Langeland-Sterenberg Funeral Home

315 E 16th St

Holland, MI 49423

(616) 392-2306

info@langelandsterenberg.com

<http://langelandsterenberg.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ Awe, so sorry to hear but I know he is so happy being in the arms of his Lord. Jerry always had such a huge smile on his face! Even with all his physical challenges, I never seen him in public without that smile. I will never forget him and your Mom...they are some of the people in my past that I call Saints...Praying for you all!
Deborah Tacoma-Glass

Deb Tacoma - November 08, 2023 at 12:25 PM

CB

So sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. I know he's Gods glory now, shining his wonderful smile. Such an inspiration to us all in his life and faith! Our deepest condolences to Linda and the family. Gary and Cheryl Bigoness

Cheryl Bigoness - November 10, 2023 at 11:01 AM

LD

“ For the short period of time I got to know the Prince family, they were wonderful. Jerry was a wonderful, kind, always smiling person. He made everyone around him feel seen. I truly believe Linda and Jerry were soulmates. Linda, stay strong. I'm praying for the family.
💖

Leigha DeCoste - November 08, 2023 at 09:54 AM

DK

“ My introduction to Jerry was January 2011 at Evergreen Commons. In my new role as President/CEO of Evergreen, Jerry was eager to help me understand how amazing and transforming Evergreen Commons is to not only the community but also to himself. Over the next 11 years I was honored to have served with Jerry at Evergreen Commons in meeting the needs of the older adult community.

Jerry’s ministry from his wheelchair was disarming and appealing; from his story on how he ended up in a wheelchair in the first place and his response to that, and then to how he managed to make it to Evergreen on his own, rain or snow, in his specially equipped Malibu, from volunteering most of his waking hours to serve Evergreen and doing it all in a spirit of deep gratitude to his Savior Jesus Christ. When Jerry showed up at Evergreen “all the lights in our building started to burn a bit brighter”. When Jerry was in your presence, your disposition regarding your day was going to positively change. As Jerry would so many times say in reply to; “Hi Jerry, how are you doing?”, with a smile on his face he would say... “It’s a Great Day.”

In the book of Revelation we read these words from Jesus to the Jesus Community of Laodicea; “To the one who overcomes I will give the right to sit with Me on My throne, just as I myself overcame and sat down with the Father on His throne.” Jerry lived the life of overcoming and is wonderfully seated with Jesus and ready to continue to serve. My guess is Jerry will have already asked for the “standing and walking assignments” that are available.

*David Knibbe
Evergreen Commons
(2011-2022)*

David Knibbe - November 06, 2023 at 11:15 AM

BD

“ Jerry was a very special person. He was always chipper even when in pain. He helped me see that even when I was on my scooter I was still a person and I could do things. He will be missed at Evergreen.

Barb Dykema - November 05, 2023 at 11:38 PM

JV

“ Jerry was such an inspiration to me. We talked at Evergreen's and I want you to know how 'special' he was. Always had a 'smile' and a Great attitude! Love in Christ. Jill VerBeek

Jill VerBeek - November 02, 2023 at 09:16 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.



November 01, 2023 at 07:33 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.



November 01, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.

November 01, 2023 at 01:07 PM



“ From The LSE/SCECO Family Members purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.



From The LSE/SCECO Family Members - November 01, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ I am sorry to hear of my friend Jerry passing. Always positive, a true Christian. I loved the Guy.

Lon Koops - October 31, 2023 at 10:56 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.



October 30, 2023 at 01:26 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.

October 30, 2023 at 01:26 PM

MS

“ I have always admired Jerry because of his strong faith, his positive outlook on life, and his strong determination against the odds. I will miss him, but I am thankful that he is in Heaven, able to walk again and enjoying his Heavenly Father. My heart goes out to each one in his family, and I am praying for God’s love & comfort for Linda and each of them!

Mavis Sturgis - October 29, 2023 at 09:06 PM

BV

“ Jerry was an amazing person. No matter what he was going through, he always greeted everyone with a smile and a word of encouragement. He will be missed at Evergreen Commons by so many people!

Barb Visser - October 29, 2023 at 04:43 PM

SH

“ I never knew a more positive person than Jerry. Always a smile on his face no matter what he was going through. I had the pleasure of getting to know Jerry at Evergreen Commons where he was a favorite of everyone. You will be missed by so many, Jerry.

Sharon Hendrickson - October 29, 2023 at 01:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gerald "Jerry" Prince.



October 28, 2023 at 09:33 PM

JF

“ *I remember Jerry catching chickens for my dad and seeing him at evergreen commons. Jan De Frell.*

Janice De Frell - October 28, 2023 at 05:31 PM