



Eugene W. "Gene" Illian

JUN 4, 1944 - OCT 18, 2014



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Eugene W. "Gene" Illian

JUN 4, 1944 - OCT 18, 2014

Eugene W. "Gene" Illian, age 70, of Georgetown, Delaware passed away on Saturday, October 18, 2014 at Christiana Healthcare, Newark, DE. Gene is the son of Charles H. and Georgia E. McKinney of Dewey Beach, De.

Gene was born in Beebe Hospital, was a graduate of Rehoboth High School where he played football and then went on to join the United States Marine Corp. He served from November 1962 to November 1966 receiving a Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Marksmanship Awards - Sharpshooter (M14). After honorable discharge, Gene worked in the Pentagon for several years, worked as a Realtor in Virginia and then spent time traveling in the west and living in Texas working for Dow Chemical Corporation. He returned to the family business in Delaware becoming a part-owner of Pier Point Marina. He was a co-owner with his sister Marty of the Lighthouse Gift Shop. Gene particularly enjoyed his work at Pat's Aircraft Systems in Georgetown where he made many friends.

During his free time Gene enjoyed sports particularly baseball and football and often attended local high school events as well as watching major leagues. Throughout his life Gene enjoyed motorcycles, guitar playing, and was a big Elvis fan.

He was an avid nature lover particularly enjoying his hummingbirds. He enjoyed all wild life both in his backyard in Georgetown and at his parents home in Dewey Beach. He loved growing flowers, a passion he shared with his Mother as they designed and planted each years' spring and fall flowers. He spent many hours outdoors, where he most loved to be, working around his home and yard while enjoying the company of his beloved cat "Lucky" aka "Pugsley". Gene took great pride and had lots of fun with his three grandsons sharing their interests in sports and target shooting and most recently cars.

Gene was preceded in death by his birth father Homer Illian. He is survived by his son Eugene "Gene" W. Illian Jr. and wife Kellie and three grandchildren Cody, Casey, and Collin of Pa, daughter Yvonne Gaillardetz and husband Matt of Va; parents Charles and Georgia McKinney,



Obituary

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De; brothers Homer Illian, Chuck McKinney, Donald McKinney, and Ronald. McKinney; sisters Carla. Rickards and Myra. Karlik.

Family and friends will gather for a Memorial Service with military honors to be held on Monday, November 10, 2014 at 2:00 PM at Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery, 26669 Patriots Way, Millsboro, DE 19966.

Memorial contributions may be made to National Wildlife Federation or Disabled American Veterans.

Please sign Gene's guestbook located on this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)




Events


Eugene W. "Gene" Illian

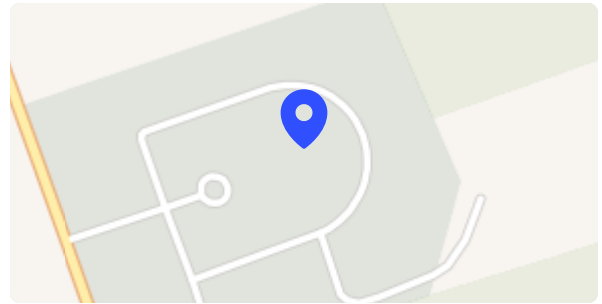
JUN 4, 1944 - OCT 18, 2014

Memorial Service

 **Monday**, November 10, 2014

 2:00 PM ET

 **Delaware Veterans Memorial Cemetery**
26669 Patriots Way, Millsboro DE





Tribute Wall

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NC

Nancy Cramer posted:

I am thinking of you today, my cousin Gene. Your dad joined you and your mom today. I am sure you two were there to welcome him. I am missing you all. Nancy McKinney Cramer

November 20 at 1:15 PM

PH

Patricia Troney Haney posted:

Gene was a kind and inspirational man. It was a privilege to have known him. My prayers are with his family.

January 23 at 8:00 PM

DW

Donna Watson posted:

I will miss you Uncle Gene.

November 6 at 8:00 PM

DM

Don & Brenda Mckinney posted:

Strength, persistence, determination and a resolve to never quit compose the legacy Gene left for us...and we are grateful to have been a part of his life. He remains always a brother and friend to cherish.

October 30 at 8:00 PM

CV

Carla Vancuren posted:

It was an honor to work with such a fine gentleman

October 27 at 8:00 PM

PM

Phyllis Mcgee posted:

So sorry to hear about the passing of Mr. Gene I worked with him at Pats, he was a wonderful man,

October 26 at 8:00 PM



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JL

Joe Lavachia posted:

Sorry to hear of Gene's death. I played football with Gene known for his speed and being a hard runner. My condolences to the family. A Great Guy gone too soon.

October 26 at 8:00 PM

DH

Doretta And Kenny Hastings posted:

Mr Gene was such a kind and genuine man. We enjoyed working with him at Pats aircraft. He will be missed by many.

October 26 at 8:00 PM

GI

Gj, Kellie, Cody, Casey & Collin Illian posted:

"The Broken Chain" We little knew that day, God was going to call your name. In life we loved you dearly, in death, we do the same. It broke our hearts to lose you. You did not go alone. For part of us went with you, the day God called you home. You left us beautiful memories, your love is still our guide. And although we cannot see you, you are always at our side. Our family chain is broken, and nothing seems the same, but as God calls us one by one, the chain will link again.

October 26 at 8:00 PM

CM

Claudia Miller, Kim Illian Mcado, Tori Mercado, And Nicholas Mercado posted:

It is times like this that remind us how very important family and friends are. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all ! We love you all.

October 25 at 8:00 PM

CM

Claudia Miller, Kim Mercado, Tori Mercado, Nichols Mercado posted:

It is times like this that remind us how very important family and friends are. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. May Geno rest in peace. We love you all. May God bless you all.

October 25 at 8:00 PM



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CP

Cindy Popovich posted:

I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Illians passing. I only knew him for such a short time and so enjoyed helping to care for him. My thoughts are with all of the family.

October 25 at 8:00 PM

PI

Pamela N. Illian posted:

Pamela N. Illian Brandon D. Howard Heather D. Howard Brian C. Howard A new angel has now been born.

October 24 at 8:00 PM

RM

Ronald Mckinney posted:

I will miss you.

October 24 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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