



Gene Francis Pierson

FEB 9, 1925 - NOV 20, 2017



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Events	Page 4
Tribute Wall	Page 5
Media	Page 7



Gene Francis Pierson

FEB 9, 1925 - NOV 20, 2017

Gene Francis Pierson, age 92 of Rehoboth Beach, DE, passed away peacefully on Monday, November 20, 2017, at Harbor Health Care & Rehabilitation Center, in Lewes, DE. He was born Monday, February 9, 1925 in Vineland, NJ, son of the late Donald and Mabel (Huey) Pierson, who were the proprietors of the Little Robin Duck Farm of Vineland.

Gene graduated from Vineland High School, Class of 1943. He served in the Pacific theater of WWII in the United States Naval Air Corps. Gene attended Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He worked for the Westinghouse Electric Corporation for 35 years. There, he contributed to the Nautilus Submarine Program and retired as Director of Contracts and Costs for the Combustion Turbine Systems Division. Gene was also a Freemason. Above all, Gene was a family man, who treasured time spent with his loved ones. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, and friend. He will be missed by all who knew him.

Gene is survived by his beloved wife, MaryLou (Potter) Pierson of Rehoboth Beach, DE; his son, David Huey Pierson of Stevensville, MD; and his daughter, Jennifer Ann Pierson of Rehoboth Beach, DE.

A Graveside Service will be held on Friday, November 24, 2017 at 2:00 PM at Oak Hill Cemetery, 182 South Delsea Drive, Vineland, NJ.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions in Gene's memory to K9s For Warriors: 114 Camp K9 Road; Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32081, or www.k9sforwarriors.org.

FLORIST NOTE: PLEASE DELIVER ALL FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS BY 3PM WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2017 TO OUR LEWES LOCATION.



Events


Gene Francis Pierson

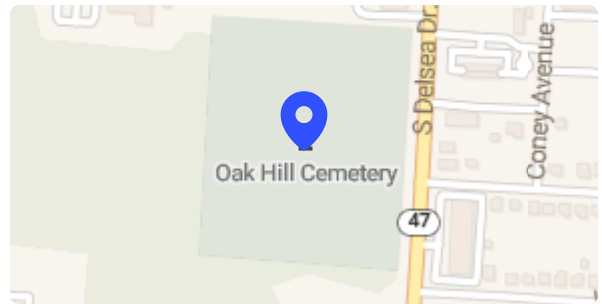
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Graveside Service

 **Friday**, November 24, 2017

 2:00 PM ET

 **Oak Hill Cemetery**
182 South Delsea Drive, Vineland NJ 08360





Tribute Wall

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JM

Jill Matthews posted:

So sorry to hear about you Father Jennifer. May light perpetual shine upon him. Jill Matthews

November 27 at 5:53 AM

JE

Jennifer posted:

Gene was born February 9th 1925 and lived here in Vineland for 90 years. He grew up on his parents' duck farm on Landis Ave. He helped his grandfather and father around the farm raising the ducks, collecting eggs and taking care of the various other animals they had on the farm. His parents also owned Pierson Morris Drug Store at 6th and Landis Ave and he spent many days helping out at that store. He loved to fish with his grandfather and would spend hours practicing casting a fishing line so he could get it to land in just the right spot. He first saw his wife, Mary Lou, while she was pushing her little sister in a baby carriage down Landis Ave. and often, over the early years, he would see her at the drug store soda fountain where he was a soda jerk. Gene briefly attended Valley Forge Military Academy and graduated from Vineland High School in 1943. He joined the Navy and served in the Pacific theater of WWII in the United States Naval Air Corps. His flight crew was stationed in the Philippines on the island of Sumara. He was a belly gunner on a PB4Y-2 Privateer. Once Gene left the service he briefly attended college in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho and then transferred to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, New York, where his father had also attended college, and graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering. While in college, Gene and Mary Lou met again, this time on a blind date and on October 3rd 1953 they were married at the First United Methodist Church here in Vineland at 7th and Landis Ave. A marriage that ultimately lasted 64 years. They moved into a house across the street from the duck farm. Three years later Jennifer came along and five years after that David. Gene worked for Westinghouse Electric Corporation his entire career. He commuted every day to his office near the Philadelphia airport... at first having to cross the Delaware River by ferry until the Walt Whitman bridge was completed. At Westinghouse, he worked on the Nautilus submarine program, coal gasification and after 35 years retired as Director of Contracts and Costs for the Combustion Turbine Systems Division. In retirement, Gene kept busy taking care of the duck farm property (by this time without the ducks) and some rental properties, traveling, fishing at the inlet behind Ocean City New Jersey, using his computer to research stocks and tending his vegetable garden. Gene was an exceptional mechanic and could fix just about anything. He also loved woodworking in his father's woodshop and keeping up his cars. His brother-in-law, Kenny, convinced him to join the board of directors for this cemetery, Oak Hill, where he served for several years. Two years ago he and Mary Lou moved to an assisted living facility in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware. All of the nurses and aides loved "Mr. Gene". They renewed their wedding vows on June 7th of this year and celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on October 3rd. Above all, Gene was a great husband and family man, who treasured time spent with his loved ones. He was a down to earth, unpretentious, sweet, generous, good guy. We were all blessed having a man like Gene in this world and he will be missed by all who knew him.

November 22 at 5:42 PM



Tribute Wall

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Jennifer shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.



November 22 at 5:42 PM



Media

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Jennifer shared a photo to the **New Album Name** album.

November 22 at 5:42 PM



Summer 2017



Memories only last if you share them

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



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