



David C. Gerkenmeyer

May 23, 1944 - November 16, 2021

David C. Gerkenmeyer, 77, of Bloomington, passed away on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 at IU Health Bloomington Hospital. He was born on May 23, 1944 in Hopewell, Virginia; the son of Earl and Valerie (Scott) Gerkenmeyer.

David received a Bachelor of Science degree from Valparaiso University and went on to obtain a Master of Science degree from Butler University. He retired from Perry Meridian High School after sharing his passion for biology with numerous students for 31 years. Following his retirement, David taught biology courses at colleges in both Indiana and Minnesota.

David was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Indianapolis for most of his adult life and loved singing in the choir. He also was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Grand Marais Minnesota and St. Thomas Lutheran Church in Bloomington.

David stayed active and especially enjoyed running the Indianapolis Mini Marathon and cycling the Hilly Hundred, often with good friends and family by his side. At his core, David was an experienced outdoorsman who generously shared his passion for the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness with family and friends, ultimately purchasing a lake cabin there with his wife Jan and living out their wildest dreams for over 15 years. Those who were blessed

to know David learned to love and respect the deep woods.

David is survived by his wife of 51 years, Janis (Kercheval) Gerkenmeyer; children, Amy Ellen Roberts (Sean), Angela Joy Sledd, and Sarah Elizabeth Cullison (Andrew); grandchildren, Owen David Roberts, Brynn Everly Roberts, Ella Delia Sledd, Lily Irie Sledd, Simon Richard Cullison and Charles David Cullison.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister Ann Marie Theil.

A funeral service will be held at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 27, 2021 at St. Thomas Lutheran Church, 3800 E. Third St. Bloomington. Family will receive friends from 11am until the time of service at the church. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Alzheimer's Association, the Wilderness Society, and the Gunflint Trail Volunteer Fire Department.

Funeral services for David will be held in conjunction with services for his beloved wife, Janis Gerkenmeyer.

Guests are welcome to join us virtually through Zoom with the directions below:

Topic: David and Janis Gerkenmeyer's service 11/27/21

Time: Nov 27, 2021 12:00 PM Indiana (East)

Join Zoom Meeting <https://trincoll.zoom.us/j/92824164361>

Meeting ID: 928 2416 4361 One tap mobile +19292056099,,92824164361#

US (New York) +13017158592,,92824164361# US (Washington DC)

Dial by your location +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 928 2416 4361 Find your local number: <https://trincoll.zoom.us/j/92824164361>
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Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Thomas Lutheran Church
3800 E. Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

Service

NOV 27. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Thomas Lutheran Church
3800 E. Third Street
Bloomington, IN

Tribute Wall

SW

“ I knew Dave through his wife, Jan, who was my colleague and friend through many years at IU School of Nursing and ISPN. We also had a private practice together for several years with Beth B and Linda D. Jan was so generous with her time and her knowledge and so caring toward patients at Riley Hospital. She truly made their lives better. Dave was a great teacher and in recent years a wonderful caregiver for Jan as she battled Alzheimer's disease. I am sad for their passing and wish their daughters healing and peace as they grieve this serious loss. Prayers for all 3 of you and for your families. Sandy Wood



Sandy Wood - November 28, 2021 at 04:36 AM



“ Beautiful Whisper was purchased for the family of David C. Gerkenmeyer.



November 24, 2021 at 08:50 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of David C. Gerkenmeyer.



November 24, 2021 at 08:43 PM

CO

“ We are so sad to hear of Dave's and Jan's passing. As neighbors across the bay and sharing a road, we so enjoyed their presence at the cabin. An incredibly helpful and loving couple with attention to detail and a servant's heart. We enjoyed swapping fish stories and northwoods lore and just waving at friendly faces across the bay. Blessings to your family with these losses. Al, Kent, and Cheri Olson and families.

Cheri Olson - November 22, 2021 at 02:25 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of David C. Gerkenmeyer.



November 21, 2021 at 10:13 AM

CK

“ He was my Biology teacher when I was a junior at Southport HS in 1970. He was a great teacher and once told me I seemed to be the only one paying attention. I made an A in his class and have never forgotten him for being the first person that made me feel intelligent. Peace to his family.

Colleen Kelly - November 21, 2021 at 08:23 AM

MV

“ So sad. David was such a kind and gentle soul. I appreciate even more now the fact that I ran into David this summer at Gunflint Lodge. He and Jan and family were a very nice addition to the Gunflint Trail community. His passing leaves a great void. My condolences to Jan and family.... Michael Valentini

Michael Valentini - November 20, 2021 at 01:45 PM

SS

I have many memories of times together with Dave and Jan at the end of the Gunflint Trail. We shared a love for the woods, interest in gardening, and Jan and I also had a mutual professional role in working with children with disabilities and their families. That gave us a special connection.

I treasure the times we shared, and I will miss them.

Susan Scherer

Susan Scherer - November 21, 2021 at 10:00 PM

CS

“ We send deep sympathy as Dave’s death is grieved. Our years of raising children together and sharing many experiences at Bethlehem are treasures. Dave was a steady, thoughtful friend who enriched our lives. May God’s continuing comfort and the promise of eternal life sustain you.

Carol Schickel - November 20, 2021 at 07:41 AM