



Steve Rhea

March 6, 1941 - March 13, 2020

Steve Rhea, 79 of Jackson passed away peacefully with his family by his side on March 13, 2020. He was born March 6, 1941 in Jackson, Ohio to the late Gerald and Carol (Mapes) Rhea. He graduated from Jackson High School in 1959. He was married to Shirley Vance Rhea on September 16, 1962. Steve joined the Army in 1961 where he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Upon his return from the Army, he worked for the 7-Up company and then began his career with the DT&I Railroad in Jackson, before being transferred to Port Huron, Michigan. Upon his retirement in 1995, Steve and Shirley returned to Jackson, where they enjoyed many years on their beautiful property with their family. Steve took great pride in his work and being an excellent provider for his family. Steve is survived by his children: Sharelle (Greg) Gerstenberger and Shalan (Erica) Rhea all of Jackson, his greatest pride, his four grandchildren: Trevor Gerstenberger, Connor Gerstenberger, Carter Rhea and Cooper Rhea. He is also survived by his sister in law: Sharon Elam of Chillicothe as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. He leaves behind his loyal canine companion, Duke. He was preceded in death by his parents, wife of 56 years, Shirley Rhea. Steve enjoyed the outdoors and spending time hunting, whether it was deer, turkey, squirrel or mushrooms. He was known to many as an excellent mushroom detective. Steve enjoyed nothing more than sharing these outdoor adventures with his grandsons or attending their sporting and school events. You did not leave Steve's home without being offered a meal, a comfortable chair, or fresh

produce from his well-maintained garden.

Steve was a member of the farmer sportsman, where he served a president. He was also a member of the Knights of Pythias. He was a founding member of the Liberty Township Volunteer Fire Department. Upon Steve's request, there will be no formal services at this time. Arrangements are under the direction of the Mayhew-Brown Funeral Home. His family would like to thank the Jenkins Community Care staff for their excellent care and compassion for Steve in his final months.

Tribute Wall

SA

“ Mrs. Rhea, contact Met Life 1-800-638-6420 - Opton 1 -- they know about the \$2,000 prepaid life insurance for GTW retirees of which Steve was entitled. If that doesn't work, call 1-800-310-7770, but the first number should get you results. Retired Clerk Sharon Arnold text 941-815-6137. So sorry for your loss.

Sharon Arnold - March 19, 2020 at 01:14 AM

DB

“ Steve was a great guy. He was a sad part of the rail industry mergers and force movements. He handled it pretty well as he was a strong person. Moving was a big part, leaving your family, but the difference in living in a totally environment took a strong person. The DT&I family in Jackson was a strong group that Steve was a big part of. My best regards to his family. If I can be of help on insurance, railroad retirement or anything just contact me at 734-782-1344. I know he will be missed by many and me too!!!!!!!!!!

Don Beeler - March 18, 2020 at 08:36 PM

JJ

“ RIP Steve Rhea. Condolences from many of your DT&I, GTW and CN Railroad coworkers. I recall meeting Gerald, Steve and Gary in Jackson, Ohio in the early '70s and we had many good times working within the Mechanical Department for most of our careers. Prayers and blessings to your family.

John Jaques - March 18, 2020 at 07:46 PM

LR

“ To Steve's family I'm so sorry to hear of his passing, I worked with Steve in Port Huron probably 35 years ago and have thought of him from time to time, May the Good Lord comfort his family in this time of sorrow.



Larry Pion GTW R.R. - March 18, 2020 at 07:34 PM

LR

Larry Pion

Larry Pion GTW R.R. - March 18, 2020 at 07:36 PM

TH

“ Shalen and Sherell, I am sorry to hear about your dad. Gary and I always enjoyed our visits with your parents when we came to Jackson. Some of our fond memories that mean a lot to me. Gary passed away just a few weeks ago . Hang on to your memories of all your good times.



Teresa Hudson - March 16, 2020 at 05:20 PM

DR

“ So sorry to hear this. Prayers for you all through this difficult time.

Denita Rhea - March 16, 2020 at 04:42 AM

DB

“ Dear Shalon, Erica and family - we are so sorry for your loss and pray for endless love and support from those around you to help you through this difficult time.

Donna Blakeney - March 15, 2020 at 10:52 PM

DC

“ Sorry to hear about Steve prayers for the family, Deanie

Deanie Clarke - March 15, 2020 at 03:55 PM



“ Dear Shalon, Erica and family, we are so sorry for your loss, sending a big hug to you guys! Enjoyed talking with your dad last summer at the ball game, he was a great guy. Love, Norm and Ruth Workman

Ruth Workman - March 15, 2020 at 03:54 PM

KR

“ Heartfelt condolences on Steve’s passing. He is reunited with his loving wife. When you think of him let those precious memories be a source of comfort and strength. He is not gone, you are just away from one another for awhile. We are grateful for his service to our country. Keeping you in our thoughts and prayers
With love and friendship,
Cullen and Kellie Rutter
“Hocking County extended family”



Kellie Rutter - March 15, 2020 at 03:53 PM

TP

“ I am so heart broken to hear this. I truly loved him, and always enjoyed catching up each year at apple butter time. I am so sorry

Tary Rhea Powers - March 14, 2020 at 09:19 PM

RG

“ *My thoughts n prayer go out to the family. Steve was a very nice man.*

Robin Greene - March 14, 2020 at 02:08 PM

CR

“ *Was sorry to hear of Steve;s passing. He was my first cousin and have many fond memories.*

Connie Rhea Rowe

Connie Rhea Rowe - March 14, 2020 at 12:16 PM