



Gary Arthur Thebo

JUN 26, 1943 - OCT 11, 2021



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Gary Arthur Thebo

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Big Rapids - Gary Arthur Thebo, 78, of Big Rapids, passed peacefully at his home on Monday, October 11, 2021, surrounded by his loving family. He was born June 26, 1943, in Detroit, the son of Art and Joyce (Lowden) Thebo, and grew up in Norwich Township. On November 14, 1959, Gary married Diane (Burkett).

In 1974, Gary opened his business in the Grand Rapids area, Wyoming Excavators, and worked for over 25 years until retiring and turning the business over to his son Chuck, who still operates it. He and Diane returned to Norwich Township and built their home near where he was raised. They also enjoyed spending winters in Florida. Gary loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing, golfing, and working on his farm. He was a ferocious card player, especially at Set-back, and also liked to entertain folks with his jokes and storytelling.

Gary is survived by his wife of 62 years, Diane; their son Chuck (Laurie) Thebo; their daughters, Kathy Thebo (Ricky Geldhof), and Sherrie (Len) Cook; "Papa" to 8 cherished grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren; also, his sister Sharyn (Scott) VanderKolk; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, his brothers Rick and Ron, and his sister Sandy Ensing.

A Celebration of Gary's Life will be announced at a later date. Memorial contributions in his name may be made for Spectrum Health Hospice, or the Parkinson's Foundation. Care and arrangements are entrusted to the Mohnke Funeral Home in Big Rapids. Share a memory or express condolences at mohnkefuneralhome.com.



Tribute Wall

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GH

George And Betty Hinton posted:

So glad we had a chance to visit Gary recently. George has so many childhood memories with Gary and Ron. He always says Gary was like a brother to him. He will be missed. God bless and strengthen Diane and family.

October 14 at 8:00 PM

MB

Michael Brus posted:

During my infrequent visits to Michigan, Gary was always so welcoming. It could be years between visits, but with Gary, it was like we had just talked the day before. Just sitting back and listening was often the highlight of the trip. Then there were

October 14 at 8:00 PM

JM

Joyce Mccquestion posted:

No body had more fun than Gary at everything he did. From his crazy stories to playing Texas Holdem on Friday nights. We had so many good memories and will cherish them forever. God Bless Diane and the whole family. Love you

October 13 at 8:00 PM

JD

John And Dale Ann Dudeck posted:

Sorry to hear of Gary's passing.

October 13 at 8:00 PM

TS

Thomas N Nancy Smith lit a candle in honor of Gary.

So sorry for your loss, thoughts and prayers. Wyoming Excavators sponsored our bowling team for many years.

October 13 at 8:00 PM





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Pat Malone posted:

Gary and I spent much time together, as neighbors, both in Parnell and Florida traveling, hunting and socializing. He and Dianne and my late wife Joan and I played many hours of cards and entertaining friends and neighbors. Gary was always ready to help

October 13 at 8:00 PM



Kevin Howe lit a candle in honor of Gary.

When I married your granddaughter, you treated me like your own grandson from the very beginning. I always felt loved by you and I will forever cherish the memories I have. Love you and see you there!

October 12 at 8:00 PM





Memories only last if you share them

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



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