



# Paul D. Gray

FEB 4, 1937 - SEP 24, 2023



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## **Paul D. Gray**

FEB 4, 1937 - SEP 24, 2023

**P**aul D. Gray, a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and successful business owner, passed away on Sunday, September 24, 2023, at the Cleveland Clinic. He was born on February 4, 1937, in Lorain, Ohio, where he spent his early years before embarking on a remarkable journey through life.

Paul's pursuit of knowledge and love led him to the University of Wisconsin, where he earned his Bachelor's Degree. During his time in Wisconsin, he also met the love of his life, Genevieve Opheim. Following their marriage, Paul and Genevieve returned to Ohio, where they built a life together in Amherst. Paul's sense of duty and patriotism led him to serve his beloved country as a member of the United States Army. He dedicated himself to his service, and after an honorable discharge, continued to serve as an officer in the Army Reserves for eight years.

In addition to his military service, Paul proudly owned and operated several family businesses, including the Lorain Creamery, the Old English Parlour, and the Sundae Haus. His strong work ethic and dedication to providing quality service were evident in the success of these ventures.

Paul was also a devoted member of Heritage Presbyterian Church, where he was an elder. His commitment to his church community was a testament to his unwavering values and the importance of faith in his life.

Beyond his professional and religious commitments, Paul had a deep love for his family. He valued the company and conversation of his friends and loved ones and the warmth of his laughter lit up the room. Paul also had an appreciation for the great outdoors. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, and connecting with the natural world. He was a dedicated sports fan and could always be found enjoying a good game, especially football or hockey. Paul had a wonderful sense of adventure and loved to travel. He cherished his time exploring the country with his wife Gen, whether it be to Vermont, Michigan, or as far as the glaciers of Alaska. They also



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traveled together to Fort Myers, Florida every winter for nearly forty years. Paul was a pillar of strength for his family, and he will be dearly missed.

Paul will be remembered for his love of family and his entrepreneurial spirit. He leaves behind a legacy of hard work, perseverance, and devotion to those he loved. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

He is survived by his devoted and loving wife of 65 years, Genevieve M. (nee Opheim) Gray, children; Michael Alan (Katrina) Gray, Daniel Paul Gray, Kim Marie (Scott) Plas, Dale Leonard Gray, and Sue Lynn (David) Roman, his grandchildren Shannon (Matthew), Melissa (Ryan), Michelle (Amber), Laurin, Michael, Isabella, Andrew, Phillip, Bryanna (CeeJay), Savannah (Jacob), Adryanna and David and his 11 great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Wellsley & Nancy (nee Lazear) Gray, sisters; Nancy Ann McBride and Betty Lee Benko and his brother, Wellsley Gray.

The family will be holding a Celebration of Life at a later date. The Dovin and Reber Jones Funeral & Cremation Center, Amherst, is assisting the family at this time. To send an online condolence, please visit [www.dovinreberjones.com](http://www.dovinreberjones.com).



## Tribute Wall

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DJ

**Dan And Georgia Jones** posted:

Our good friend, Paul, and Gen are our treasured neighbors in Florida. We are very broken-hearted over losing Paul and will always treasure our memories of our time with him. Our deep condolences to Gen and their family ❤️🕊️👤

October 8 at 1:39 PM

AH

**Alan C Hixson** posted:

I met Paul on State Street in Madison, Wisconsin in 1954/55 when he was going to school at the UW through my personal friend, Gary German who was Paul's university buddy. We have carried on correspondence ever since. I live in northern Wisconsin now, retired, but was born and raised in Monroe, Wisconsin, 300 miles to the south. Paul was a great friend with the best of humorous emails and information. At one time he invited Gary and I to come to Ohio and fish for walleye but due to other circumstances I now regret we didn't go. Gary has since passed on, also, so now my life gets emptier of friends and relatives too. God bless the family of Paul Gray. I and my wife, Delores, offer our deepest sympathy. Alan C. Hixson, Couderay, Wisconsin

September 27 at 9:27 PM

TT

**Ty Trbobich** posted:

I met Paul in our sophomore year at Lorain High School. I was the quarterback and Paul was the right guard. We continued our friendship at the University of Wisconsin playing some football. Later in life I visited Paul & Gen in Florida. Since then, we stayed in touch via phone and computer. Our prayers, love & support to you Gen & family. Ty & Sherrie

September 27 at 3:26 PM

DF

**Donna Fatten** posted:

Gen and Family, I was so sorry to read about Paul's passing. What a shock. You and Paul were good neighbors for many years. Know that I am thinking about you and your family. Keep those memories close.

September 27 at 7:42 AM



## Tribute Wall

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DB

**Dana Blumensaadt** posted:

Sending love and prayers to the Gray family. Mr. Gray was my first boss working at Sundae Haus. Loved working with the Gray Family. Such wonderful memories.

September 27 at 4:21 AM

AB

**Amy Jaynes-Brown** lit a candle in honor of Paul.

Dear Gen & Family keeping you all in Our thoughts & prayers. Praying for God to give you all Comfort and Peace in the days to come. Paul was a Great Man I always enjoyed talking to him. Fly High With The Angels Paul. Love, Your Friends Amy & Rich



September 26 at 5:57 PM

DB

**Donna Bambrough** posted:

So sorry to hear about Uncle Paul. I know what a loss it will be for you Aunt Gen. I will miss the humorous emails that he sent throughout the years. I see Julie has already sent our sympathy to you and your family. My thoughts and prayers are with you. My sympathy, Donna Bambrough

September 26 at 4:57 PM

KV

**Ken Vazur** October 2 at 2:14 PM

So sorry to just now hear this terrible news Gen. Our deepest heartfelt sympathies go out to you and your entire family.

TD

**Tudy Diaz** September 28 at 8:00 AM

Gen & family I'm so sorry to hear of Paul's passing. He was a great guy & friend. I will always remember his great sense of humor & devotion to his family. Rest in peace my friend. Tudy

CK

**Cheyl Kempfer** September 27 at 1:55 AM

Sorry for your loss. Sending my sympathy and hugs. Cheyl Kempfer

JS

**Julie Showers** posted:

Deepest sympathies from Julie (Bambrough) Showers. Philip Bambrough, and Donna Bambrough. Thinking of you Aunt Gen from Wisconsin

September 26 at 2:43 PM



# **Memories only last if you share them**

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



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