



Gerald R. Ball

June 10, 1947 - May 19, 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved husband, father and grandfather, Gerald R. Ball of Cadillac who passed away Saturday, May 19, 2018. He was 70 years old.

Born on June 10, 1947 to Devere & Eileen (Terrell) Ball of Cadillac, Jerry graduated from Cadillac High School and joined the United States Navy. After he came home he met and married the love of his life and best friend, Sheryl (Wood) Ball. Jerry and Sheryl traveled through life together as though each day were an adventure, and passed that spirit down to their family.

Jerry was a Fire Chief for several departments, but retired from Wyoming Fire Department in Wyoming, Michigan. He remained an instructor for the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland until his death and will be sadly missed by his students and fellow faculty.

Jerry leaves behind a heartbroken and grieving family. He is survived by his loving wife of 49 years, Sheryl; his daughter, Shani (Paul) Skutt; son, Nick (Wendy and Alex) Ball; grandsons, Zachary and Nicholas Skutt; mother, Eileen Ball; siblings: Linda McDonald, Tom (Dee) Ball, Melissa (Jim) Hill, Kim (Al) Elzinga; sisters-in-law, Kim (Jim) Gydesen, Jennifer (Terry) Losinger as well as many nieces and nephews. He will be particularly missed by his dear friends, Roger and Linda Walker and his faithful canine companion, Eddie.

The family requests that all those who wish to attend the graveside service Thursday, May 24, 2018 meet at Peterson Funeral and Cremation Services in Cadillac to depart in procession at 11:00 AM. Jerry will be escorted by fire truck to Selma Township Cemetery where a graveside service will be held at 11:30 AM Thursday.

In lieu of flowers donations made in Jerry's name to Great Lakes Burn Camp for the benefit of burned children from across the State of Michigan would be greatly appreciated.

An online guestbook is available at www.petersonfh.com.

Tribute Wall

MB

“ George and Mary Lou Bush would to offer their prayers and sympathy to Eileen and family on their very great loss. May God bring peace to each of you

Mary Lou Bush - May 27, 2018 at 06:53 PM

GR

“ Eileen & family my thoughts & prayers are with all of you. May you Rest in Peace.

Glenda Robertson - May 24, 2018 at 11:04 AM

TC

“ The " Chief" will be missed..... but never forgotten.

Wolverine Builders

Tom Couch - May 23, 2018 at 05:03 PM

DN

“ Jerry was an extraordinary man. There are many in the fire service who will deeply mourn his passing as his life was a life of service, love, compassion and excellence. I wish we could have many more years with him. Rest in peace my friend.

Donnie Norman - May 22, 2018 at 10:14 PM

WW

“ It was my honor and privilege to have worked for him as Wyoming fire chief. Condolences and prayers to Eileen and family. RIP

William Gillis retired WFD - May 22, 2018 at 07:19 PM

CW

“ Sheryl, I am extending my condolences along with the condolences of the Michigan Fire Chiefs Association. Jerry was one of the first Chiefs to welcome me when I became a Chief back in 1997. He will surely be missed. God Bless you and remember that God has a special place for Fire Chiefs in Heaven.

Chief Robert Walker - May 22, 2018 at 02:05 PM

RJ

“ I have fond memories of Chief Ball, his legacy will of education and leadership will continue to mold countless firefighters from across the state and nation. I offer your family my Sincere condolences.
Rick Hamilton
Wyoming Fire Fighter Reserve
1992-2015

Richard Hamilton Jr - May 22, 2018 at 12:58 PM

TS

“ So many of my childhood memories include family celebrations at the Ball house with my cousins, including Jerry. He will be missed by many. Long distance hugs to all who loved him.

Teri Shilling - May 22, 2018 at 12:55 PM

GS

“ I worked for Jerry when he was Chief at Bangor Township. I am sorry for your loss

George Strietet - May 22, 2018 at 11:10 AM

CS

“ *My heart breaks for you all. I will always remember his kindness toward me. May you find peace and comfort on the Lord thru this part of the journey.*

Charlene Smith - May 22, 2018 at 10:20 AM

CM

“ *I was proud to have known and worked for Jerry. He was a big factor in my career. He was very dedicated and knowledgeable. even today at work his favorite sayings run through my mind. Chief, Instructor, Friend. You will never be forgotten.*

Craig Miller - May 22, 2018 at 09:39 AM

DH

“ *Sheryl, years ago when Mama died you gave me the poem Footprints.- It brought me great comfort then and in the years since. I will always remember your kindness. I hope you find comfort now somehow. My love and condolences go out to you, the kids and to Jerry's family. An old friend from the Pleasant Lake days....*

Debbie (Lewis) Hammond - May 22, 2018 at 09:19 AM

LT

“ *Shani, My heart goes out to you and all your family. Take care of each other at this time of pain and sadden.*

Linda Teather - May 22, 2018 at 07:45 AM

BH

“ *My sympathy to Jerry's family during this time of loss. May he RIP. I was a Bay City Times photographer.*

Bill Hewitt - May 21, 2018 at 09:09 PM

JL

“ Eileen and family.... I am so very sorry for your loss of a very fine man at a young age. I have many fond memories of him from years ago. May you be comforted with the knowledge that concern and prayers are being sent as you deal with the days ahead.

Jerry Leavell - May 21, 2018 at 07:00 PM

SB

“ Jerry was a great guy who will be sorely missed by his National Fire Academy co-instructors. I had the pleasure of teaching with him on three occasions. He was a pleasure to work with and had great insight. So sorry to hear of his passing.

Stephen Bloyd - May 21, 2018 at 06:47 PM

DZ

“ I will always remember Jerry for his knowledge, friendship, and his great sense of humor. It was both a privilege and honor to have known him. I am deeply saddened by this loss. The only comfort I can take with me is that I was able to teach with him what ended up being his last class. May you Rest In Peace my good friend and colleague. You will be missed by many.

David Zinther - May 21, 2018 at 06:07 PM

TG

“ You'll be greatly missed and the world and our profession are better for your commitment

Terry glemens - May 21, 2018 at 05:23 PM