



## Gary Lee Humphreys

September 11, 1954 - March 17, 2023

Gary Lee Humphreys, of Delmar, MD passed away on Friday, March 17, 2023, after a short but brutal fight with cancer. He was 68. He is survived by his loving spouse and partner of 37 years, Anna Humphreys; a daughter, Tammy Palacio and spouse Richard Rodriguez; son, Chad Hardin and spouse Melissa Hardin; two grandsons, Zion Palacio (Firecracker), and Curtis Moore; a granddaughter, Autumn Seehafer; a sister, Lisa Hagle; and numerous nieces and nephews. A special person in his life, Addie Purnell, who acted as his “other mother,” and was always there for him and his close family. In addition to many claimed children, his work family, and many hunting, fishing, and horseracing buddies who became family.

He was preceded in death by his grandson, Grant Hardin; grandmother, “Mom” Gladys Oliphant; mother, Edseline Adkins; and father, Lee Humphreys. Gary was a lifelong resident of Delmar graduating from Delmar High School in 1972 and winning Citizen of the Year in 2016. At the time of his passing, he worked as a driver for Lakeside at Mallard’s Landing where he won Employee of the Year. He was a beloved bus driver and contractor for Wicomico County Schools for many years as well where his gentle, fun-loving nature brought a smile to many. He was a proud farmer and belonged to the Maryland Farm Bureau. He was an honorary member of the Delmar Fire Department where, over the years, he served 3 years as an engineer, a year as a ladder foreman, a year as a hose foreman, was a past vice-president and served on various committees. He also served as a proud sponsor and coach for Delmar Little

League and was often the supporter of many other local organizations and charities.

Known to be an avid hunter and fisherman, he was a lifetime member of the National Rifle Association, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and North American Hunting Club. He was also a member of the National Wild Turkey Federation. As a fisherman, he was a winner in the first Barnacle Bills Fishing tournament held in Chincoteague, VA. He enjoyed many hunting and fishing trips throughout his life.

Having grown up in the horse racing community, he often enjoyed attending live and simulcast racing. He later owned horses and was a winner in the 2013 and 2014 Maryland Sire Stakes and Maryland Standardbred Race Fund Championship. His prized horse 'Spinout' went undefeated as a 2 and 3 year old in the Maryland Stakes Program. He belonged to the Maryland Horse Breeders Association (director 2 years), Delaware Standardbred Owners' Association, Cloverleaf Standardbred Owners' Association, and the United States Trotters Association.

Gary was never seen without a smile. He brought joy to everyone around him with his infectious laugh and great sense of humor. He enjoyed football and was a lifelong Notre Dame fan. However, his favorite part of the sport was razzing friends and family when their preferred team lost.

Everyone who met Gary loved him. He was kind, friendly, and accepting. He loved wholeheartedly and enjoyed his life. He was proud of his accomplishments and for those of his family and friends. He was a good man, a great husband, a wonderful father, grandfather, and an even better friend. A special thank you to Coastal Hospice Care and their dedicated staff for all of their assistance during this difficult time.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Friday, March 24, 2023, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 at Short Funeral Home in Delmar, and also on Saturday, March 25, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 at the funeral home, where services will begin at 11:00. Bob Miller, Executive Director, Lakeside at Mallard Landing, will officiate. Interment will follow at Wicomico Memorial Park in

Salisbury.

Memorial contributions may be made in his memory to the National Wild Turkey Federation, Grant Hardin Scholarship Fund, c/o David Johnson, P.O. Box 441, Delmar, DE 19940, or to Coastal Hospice, P.O. Box 1733, Salisbury, MD 21802.

Arrangements are in the care of Short Funeral Home in Delmar. Online condolences may be sent to the family by visiting [www.shortfh.com](http://www.shortfh.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Wicomico Memorial Park

721 Snow Hill Road  
Salisbury, MD 21802

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 24. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Short Funeral Home  
13 E Grove Street  
Delmar, DE 19940  
(302) 846-2525

## Visitation

MAR 25. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Short Funeral Home  
13 E Grove Street  
Delmar, DE 19940  
(302) 846-2525

## Funeral Service

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MAR **25**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Short Funeral Home  
13 E Grove Street  
Delmar, DE 19940  
(302) 846-2525

# Tribute Wall



“ Short Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Lee Humphreys



Short Funeral Home - March 24, 2023 at 04:34 PM

KH

Gary was a good guy. He graduated with my Brother Keith. Condolences going out to all of his Family and Friends. God bless you all. Prayers going up! XO ❤️ Kay Short Habig and Family. You will be missed in Wildcat Country. The memories of you will live on!!

Kay Short Habig - March 26, 2023 at 07:39 PM



“ Short Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Gary Lee Humphreys



Short Funeral Home - March 24, 2023 at 10:50 AM

PW

“ I knew Gary all my life. I never saw him have a bad day and whenever he was around he was usually bringing a smile to someone’s face. I will miss him.

*My thoughts and prayers go out to Anna and family.*

Pat Wood - May 02, 2023 at 12:24 PM

BB

“ Was so sorry to hear of Gary’s passing. He was a good man and a good friend. Our fishing trips back in the day were always a great time. RIP my friend and prayers to Ann and family 🙏 Burt Butler

Burt Butler - March 24, 2023 at 06:40 PM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Humphreys.



March 24, 2023 at 02:09 PM

RW

“ Gary and I grew up together....kids in the neighborhood...playing football, building tree forts, hanging out at Cobbys Golf. The sweetest, most genuine soul. He was my dear friend. ❤️

Roberta Conaway Ward - March 23, 2023 at 08:49 PM

GR

“ He was such a kind and caring person. Worked with him at Lakeside. So so sorry for the loss. Thoughts and prayers to all the family.



Gail Revel - March 23, 2023 at 05:35 PM



“ 103 files added to the album LifeTributes



Short Funeral Home - March 23, 2023 at 02:36 PM

BB

“ B B Brittingham lit a candle in memory of Gary Humphreys



B & B Brittingham - March 23, 2023 at 10:16 AM

SD

“ He was ALOT of fun to fish with!!! I'm sorry for your loss. Scot Disharoon

Scot Disharoon - March 22, 2023 at 06:51 PM

MI

“ *The best bus driver all around awesome person will be missed*

Michele - March 22, 2023 at 05:56 PM

ES

“ *Ed Scott lit a candle in memory of Gary Humphreys*



Ed Scott - March 22, 2023 at 02:09 PM

OT

“ *I can think of very few people who had such a positive impact on so many. A life well lived, thank you Gary.*  
*Marian Thompson*

Ollie & Dottie Thompson - March 22, 2023 at 01:36 PM

MB

“ *Sometimes you never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory*”



Milton & Annette Bradford - March 22, 2023 at 08:20 AM

GM

“ Gary and Barbara Miller purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Gary Lee Humphreys.



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**Gary and Barbara Miller** - March 21, 2023 at 07:09 PM

MB

“ Dear Gary, you left us with the best memories to remember you no words to say except until we meet again my friend. God Bless Love ya....



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**Milton & Annette Bradford** - March 21, 2023 at 04:46 PM

JM

“ I didn't know Gary, but his obituary was a lovely tribute...

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**J. McKenzie** - March 21, 2023 at 03:48 PM

SE

“ Gary was one of the kindest people. He was always going above and beyond for the residents at Mallard Landing. He will truly be missed. Rest easy my friend

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**sheri Enfield** - March 21, 2023 at 02:21 PM

S(

“ Our Deepest Condolences and Love is extended to the Humphreys Family. We truly share your loss. Gary was a jovial person and he was always a joy to be around. May you get thru this difficult time, through prayers and comfort of family and friends. SIP Gary and take your Rest. We loved you but God loved you Best. Starr and Jarmo Purnell

Starr & Jarmar (Jarmo) - March 21, 2023 at 02:15 PM

KB

“ Many fond memories with Gary from years ago.

Kenny Beach - March 21, 2023 at 09:08 AM



“ During my time in the Maryland Standardbred Industry, one of the nicest men I have been fortunate to know. RIP Gary.

Thomas Cooke - March 20, 2023 at 11:31 PM

CD

“ Carolyn Day lit a candle in memory of Gary Humphreys



Carolyn Day - March 20, 2023 at 10:08 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Humphreys.*



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March 20, 2023 at 07:57 PM



“ *We are very sorry to hear of Gary's passing, he was one of the happiest people you could ever meet. God bless him and his family.*  
*John and Lisa Vickers*

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**John Vickers** - March 20, 2023 at 05:15 PM