



Scott K. Gamster

September 11, 1945 - September 21, 2010

Scott Kemp Gamster died Tuesday evening, September 21, 2010, at 11:15 PM at his home in Marion, Illinois.

A Memorial Service will be conducted Saturday morning, September 25, 2010, at 11:30 AM at the Reynoldsburg Church near Tunnel Hill, Illinois. Rev. Pete Vinson will officiate.

Private interment will be in the Woodside Cemetery.

Friends may call from 6 PM - 8 PM Friday at Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna.

Scott was born in New Orleans, Louisiana on September 11, 1945 and lived in Michigan and Indiana as a young boy. He, along with his family, later moved to Wheaton, Illinois.

Scott graduated from Western Military Academy in Alton, Illinois in 1963, where he lettered in several sports and attained the rank of 1st Lieutenant. Scott dabbled in acting and joked about being a "Cadetspian." He received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Tulsa in 1967 and attended Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Missouri.

Scott worked during the summer of 1967 on a river barge which was based

out of Paducah, Kentucky. During this time, Scott developed a lifelong love for being on the water. It was also during that summer that Scott met Suzanne Harper. They were married in 1968 in Paducah, Kentucky.

Scott and Suzanne moved to Alton, Illinois where he worked as an accountant with Laclede Steel. He enlisted in the U.S. Army officer candidate school and received an honorable discharge.

Scott and Suzanne then moved to Cape Girardeau, Missouri to work for Medalist Industries. He advanced quickly, becoming president of Caproco, Inc. in Sikeston, Missouri before the age of 30.

In 1977, Scott acquired Reaco Battery Service Co. (in business since 1924) and moved to Marion, Illinois. He remained grateful to his family and a few friends for helping make the acquisition possible. Reaco was a well-established small company. With the help of loyal co-workers, Reaco grew to achieve a major position in its market, selling underground mining and forklift industrial batteries throughout the Midwest, South, and Southwest. Scott sold Reaco Battery to Crown Battery Co. of Fremont, Ohio in 2006 and was appointed to the Crown Battery Board of Directors. Scott earned well-deserved respect as an honorable, intelligent businessman. He was self-made in every sense of the word.

Boating and fishing on big rivers, lakes and oceans became a favorite past-time and many stories evolved from trips on the water that Scott and Suzanne shared with friends. Disaster usually struck in some form(s) on those trips, but Scott helped all weather the storm, literally in some cases. With Scott as the self-professed captain, the trips were always great adventures.

Scott traveled the world on business and for pleasure. He enjoyed a wide variety of sport fishing in many of the top spots in the world, such as Abaco

Bahamas, Panama, Costa Rica, Belize and the Florida Keys, where his latest accomplishment was earning a Grand Slam award for catching a tarpon, bone fish and a snook in the same day. His friends looked forward to hearing his fishing tales and seeing pictures from the trips. His personal favorite catch was of a 600 pound Black Marlin in Costa Rica.

Scott was a loyal fan of the University of Tulsa sports teams but his deepest sports loyalty was to his beloved Cubs; a lifelong affection to which his Cardinal friends took futile exception.

In addition to being a fan of college and professional teams, he coached Marion basketball and soccer youth leagues. His kids brought home several trophies and were always forces to be reckoned with. He enjoyed bowling and made many friends while doing so.

Scott spent many years hunting, four-wheeling, and enjoying the outdoors with family and friends on the Harper family farm in Tunnel Hill, Illinois.

He was a member of the Commonwealth Yacht Club in Grand Rivers, Kentucky; Islamorada Fishing Club in Islamorada, Florida; the International Gamefish Association; the American Legion; and the Elks Lodge. Scott belonged to the N.R.A. and was a staunch supporter of the Republican Party.

Scott was preceded in death by his Parents - Robert Lewis and Miriam Jeanette (Randle) Gamster and his Mother-in-Law - Carmen Elizabeth Campbell Harper.

Scott is survived by his wife of 42 years, Suzanne Harper Gamster, a Son - Grantland Scott Gamster, and his wife Lindsay Nicole; 3 Grandsons - Grantland Gage Gamster, Broderick Scott Gamster, and Anthony Titan

Nemecek of Tunnel Hill, Illinois. He was looking forward to the birth of another grandson in December. Scott is also survived by: His Father-in-Law & Mother-in-Law - Norman and Helen Harper of Vienna, IL; a Brother-in-Law - Paul Harper, and his wife Melinda, along with their children Audrey Brooke and Zachary Paul Harper all of Paducah, Kentucky. Scott was honored to be the godfather to Kelli Giles Lanza of Atlanta, Georgia and Clayton Arthur Weston of Columbia, Missouri.

No one who knew Scott will forget his quick witted humor, determination, and undying commitment to his work, family, and friends.

Contributions in memory of Scott K. Gamster may be made to the Missouri Military Academy math program, Attn: Christine Smith, Development Office, 204 North Grand Street, Mexico, Missouri 65265 or to the Woodside Cemetery, c/o David Lawrence, 14408 Fowler School Road, Marion, IL 62959.

Tribute Wall



“ *Scott K. Gamster*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM

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Suzanne I don't know if this will get to you. It's a friend from your past, Carole Conley Roller. Remember the fun we had when you were at Alton Box fun parties and Scott doing our roots. I was thinking about both of you today and I came upon Scott's obituary. I was so sorry to learn of Scott's passing. What a lovely tribute. You two had a wonderful life. I hope you are doing well and would love to hear from you. We are still in Godfrey living the good life. Love.

Carole Roller - June 12, 2024 at 03:08 PM