



Val Gene Flora

September 12, 1931 - October 10, 2014

Val Gene Flora, age 83 years, a resident of Vienna, passed away Friday morning, October 10, 2014, at 12:58 AM at Baptist Health in Paducah, Kentucky.

Val Gene was born September 12, 1931 in Johnson County Illinois. He was the third of four children born to Cairl James & Opal May (Harner) Flora.

Val Gene was formerly united in marriage to Patricia Ann (Mills) Flora.

Survivors include: his children: Douglas Val Gene (Jane) Flora of St. Paul, Missouri, Lara Mae Flora of Tulsa, Oklahoma, Patricia Angela "Angel" Burchfield of O'Fallon, Missouri, Scott Patrick (fiancé Tonya Kreinhedder) Wentzville, Missouri, and Shannan Mac (Stacie Bauer) Flora of Lake St. Louis, Missouri; 10 grandchildren – Emily Bruce, Aaron Flora, David Robertson, Theresa Erdmann, Christy Flora, Patty Flora, Amanda Andrick, Mason Andrick, Jaden Flora & Chase Flora; 8 great grandchildren – Molly, Leah, Ben, Ezra, Amalya, Christian, Diamond, & Jericho; 2 sisters – Virginia Lee Basta and Bonnie Lou Flora both of Vienna; his loving companion – Brenda Dirden; and a host of other relatives and many friends.

Val Gene was preceded in death by his parents – Cairl J. Flora and Opal M. Flora Mescher; a brother – Marvin James Flora; and his stepfather – Clifford

“Tim” Mescher.

Val Gene was a 1950 graduate of the Vienna High School, where he excelled as a standout athlete. He served from February 20, 1951-February 19, 1954 in the United States Marine Corps. Val Gene played basketball on the Marine Corps 2nd Division Team and later played semi-professionally. He had the opportunity to meet and play against many of the professional basketball players of that era and even played at Madison Square Garden in New York City. Val Gene attended Illinois Wesleyan College on a Basketball Scholarship.

He was employed as a production control expeditor by McDonnell-Douglas Corporation for 33 years prior to his retirement on February 28, 1991. Val Gene was a member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers Local # 837. He also owned and operated Flora’s Landscaping from 1970-1980 and later worked for the United States Forest Service seniors work program.

Val Gene never met a stranger. He will be remembered for his jovial manner; always ready with a quip or verbal jab. Val Gene was a consummate practical joker and life of the party. He had many interests and enjoyed a number of hobbies, including woodworking, painting, playing Bingo, and shooting pool. He had participated over the years in a number of pool leagues. Val Gene also enjoyed working in the outdoors. He was a true “ax man,” cutting and selling firewood.

Val Gene enjoyed spending time with friends at the Whistlers and Whittlers Senior Citizens Center. He also loved music and sang gospel music in many churches throughout the community. Val Gene will be remembered for his zest for life and love of family and friends.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, October 17, 2014, at 2 PM at

Bailey Funeral Home in Vienna. Brother Bill Veach officiated. Burial, with military graveside rites, were held in the Vienna Fraternal Cemetery. Pallbearers included Doug Flora, Scott Flora, Shannan Flora, Aaron Flora, Davy Robertson, Taylor Bruce, and Gerald Nanney.

Visitation was conducted from 1 PM – 2 PM Friday at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Whistlers & Whittlers Senior Citizens Center, PO Box 1372, Vienna, IL 62995

Cemetery Details

Vienna Fraternal Cemetery

N. 6th Street
Vienna, IL

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 17. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Service

OCT 17. 2:00 PM (CT)

Bailey Funeral Home
705 North First Street
PO Box 695
Vienna, IL 62995
(618) 658-2311
baileyfhinc@hotmail.com
<https://baileyfh.com>

Tribute Wall

GD

“ *my mother lara mae flora next of kin daughter of val gen flora and bonnie flora is her aunt mymother is still alive lives in muskogee oklahoma*

Grand daughter - June 19, 2025 at 11:29 AM

GD

“ <https://www.facebook.com/people/Benjamin-Vasquez-McKee/pfbid0fmzxnseocqMYBEDJhhCFjx8HU6D3Zp6jiG9XiFPzDrtxTrwZsnSs9phctnjAcqok/>

Grand daughter - June 19, 2025 at 11:27 AM



“ *Val Gene Flora*

January 30, 2023 at 12:19 AM

JV

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



James Vaughn - October 28, 2014 at 09:18 AM

PF

“ Pam & Justin Flora lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Pam & Justin Flora - October 14, 2014 at 03:53 PM

FM

“ Fred And Trisha Meyer lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Fred and Trisha Meyer - October 12, 2014 at 12:43 PM

DG

“ Donna Glass Greenwell lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Donna Glass Greenwell - October 12, 2014 at 08:43 AM

JV

“ Love You Forever Uncle Val!----Jim Vaughn



James Vaughn - October 11, 2014 at 09:49 PM

DS

“ Dale And Lynn Snelling lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Dale and Lynn Snelling - October 11, 2014 at 12:47 PM

DH

“ Dennis & Pat Harner lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Dennis & Pat Harner - October 11, 2014 at 11:03 AM

JH

“ Jack And Jackie Harper lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Jack and Jackie Harper - October 11, 2014 at 08:28 AM

LM

“ Larry And Carolyn McGill lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Larry and Carolyn McGill - October 10, 2014 at 06:41 PM

RH

“ Ronald & Floy Harner lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Ronald & Floy Harner - October 10, 2014 at 06:11 PM

DH

“ Dallas & Charlene Harner lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Dallas & Charlene Harner - October 10, 2014 at 06:10 PM

RS

“ Richard & Vickey Swiney lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Richard & Vickey Swiney - October 10, 2014 at 03:56 PM

MH

“ Mary Lou Hynes lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora



Mary Lou Hynes - October 10, 2014 at 11:17 AM

JR

“ *James & Diane Rainbolt lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora*



James & Diane Rainbolt - October 10, 2014 at 09:52 AM

RB

“ *Rich And Karen Brumley lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora*



Rich and Karen Brumley - October 10, 2014 at 09:05 AM

MH

“ *MR. AND MRS RICKEY HARNER lit a candle in memory of Val Gene Flora*



MR. AND MRS RICKEY HARNER - October 10, 2014 at 08:57 AM