



Eugene (Gene) Ray Frey

June 3, 2021

Eugene (Gene) Ray Frey, 76, of Lancaster, passed away on June 3, 2021 at Lancaster General Hospital. Born and raised in Chambersburg, PA, he was the son of the late Adin and Janet Frey, and the loving husband of Hazel M. Frey for 54 years. They were married on December 18, 1966.

Gene was born and raised on the family farm in Franklin County, PA. He graduated from Chambersburg Area High School, and Eastern Mennonite University, Harrisonburg, Virginia with a B.S. degree in History. He later took additional courses at Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA in the areas of Quality Control, Dairy Processing, and Ice Cream Manufacturing.

Gene's love of agriculture began in his early years. He spent time working in dairy plant production and operations management at the family farm's dairy, processing dairy products and manufacturing ice cream. Gene and his family left the family's dairy and spent several years living in Tanzania, East Africa, where he and his wife taught at the Mennonite Theological College.

Upon returning from Tanzania, he continued to work in the agriculture industry for several different companies as a milk production specialist - at Dairymen Inc., Hershey Foods Corporation, and Land O'Lakes, Inc. During his years in the industry, he served for 16 years as the Secretary and Delegate for the PA Association for Milk, Food and Environmental Sanitarians. He also served as

the President of the PA Southeast Dairy Sanitarian's Association, and participated in various other agriculture-related professional organizations. Gene received numerous awards and recognition for his service within the industry.

Gene deeply loved his family, and was a dedicated husband, father, and grandfather. He enjoyed spending time with family members, especially his adult children and grandchildren. His favorite activities included taking his grandchildren on annual trips to the PA Farm Show and traveling with them to special vacation sites. He spent time on long walks with his beloved dogs, as well as his children and grandchildren. These special "Walks with Grandpa" were valuable moments for Gene to remain closely connected to the family. He looked for any opportunity to share his passion of the dairy industry with others, including making and sharing homemade grapenut ice cream – a favorite of many people. Gene also enjoyed collecting antique model trucks, painting in oils, and reading. He was fondly known as a 'history buff' through his love of books.

Gene is survived, in addition to his wife Hazel by two children: Robin Felty (Chad) of Lititz, PA, and Derek Frey of Lancaster, PA, and his grandchildren Caleb Setlock and Ian Felty. He is also survived by siblings Linda Horst (John), Clear Spring, MD; Fern Diller (Eugene), Greencastle, PA; Miriam Hawbaker (Wayne), Greencastle, PA; and Wilmer Frey (Serita), Deerfield, NH. He was preceded in death by a brother, Robert Frey (Dorothy).

A funeral service will be held at 10:30am on Saturday, June 12, 2021 at Living Hope Community Church, 2823 Columbia Ave, Lancaster, PA, with Pastor Ron Ressler and Pastor Karl Landis officiating. Family and friends are invited to a viewing from 9:30-10:30am or until the time of the service.

A viewing will also be held on Friday, June 11, from 6:00-8:00pm at the Groffs

Family Funeral & Cremation Services, 528 W. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA.
The burial will be private for immediate family at the Millersville Mennonite Cemetery, Millersville, PA following the service on June 12.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Friends of Shirati, P.O. Box 10903, Lancaster, PA 17605. Friends of Shirati is a nonprofit organization that provides medical support, educational and developmental assistance to Shirati Hospital in Tanzania, East Africa. Friends of Shirati engage and support the ongoing work of Shirati Hospital, Shirati College of Health Sciences and the Shirati Leprosy community.

Previous Events

Viewing

JUN 11. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

The Groffs Family Funeral and Cremation Services Inc
528 W Orange St.
Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-5300
admin@thegroffs.com
<https://thegroffs.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 12. 10:30 AM (ET)

Living Hope Community Church
2823 Columbia Avenue
Lancaster, PA

Tribute Wall



“ Eugene (Gene) Ray Frey

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ I was saddened to hear of Gene's passing. Gene did a fantastic job as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Association of Milk, Food, and Environmental Sanitarians (PAMFES) for many years. Since meeting Gene in 1990 at the annual PAMFES meeting, I have enjoyed his friendship. When I traveled to International Association of Food Protection in 2013, Gene invited me to join him at the IAFP Luncheon since he was our PAMFES Liason. Gene was a great mentor and example of how to get involved with organizations in your career. He will be missed by everyone. God's Blessings and Comfort for Hazel and your Family! Paul Dix

Paul Dix - June 12, 2021 at 10:16 AM



“ So sad to here of Gene's passing. I knew him through PAMFES and his dairy associations. He was always a pleasure to work with. He was always straight forward and a gentleman. He will be missed by all who knew him.
Brett Brumbaugh-retired

Brett Brumbaugh - June 11, 2021 at 09:05 AM

LW

“ Dear Hazel and family. I was very surprised to hear of Gene's passing and send my deepest and heartfelt sympathy. Memories in our younger days flood my mind, as we lived as neighbors. Double dating with Gene and Hazel several times in our teen years was loads of fun. Once we traveled together to hear Omar Martin preach in Pottstown one evening. The hikes we went on with the youth group on several occasions. We shared together in Helen and Emmert's wedding. Fun times and good memories. My heart goes out to you Hazel as losing a spouse is not easy. May God be your real source of comfort at this difficult time. My prayers are with you.

Lois M. White - June 07, 2021 at 12:26 PM

HW

“ Dear Hazel, Robin and Derek,
I was saddened to hear about your husband/father's passing. May you find comfort at this time. My deepest condolences to you all the way from Malaysia.
Heidi Wenger (Dan and Erma's daughter)

Heidi Wenger - June 07, 2021 at 04:58 AM