



Michael George Gerack

February 23, 1925 - May 13, 2017

Michael George Gerack, 92, of Venice, died May 13, 2017. Mike was born in Milwaukee, WI, February 23, 1925.

He graduated from Solomon Juneau High School and enlisted in the United States Navy, where he was sent to the Pacific Theater in World War II. Mike was assigned to the Marines as a corpsman and was a survivor of the Battle of Iwo Jima. Mike identified himself as a Marine and caused a bit of a stir when he wore his Marine uniform to muster out of the Navy.

After the end of his military service, Mike returned to Milwaukee, where he married his high school sweetheart, Angie. They literally built their first house by themselves and were together until her death in 2010.

He was a funeral director for a time but quickly discovered he had a gift for sales, especially sports equipment. In 1959, Mike followed his parents to Florida and settled his young family in Venice, in one of the early homes in Venice Gardens, where he remained the rest of his life.

He had a sports store in Nokomis, a honey business, and spent the last couple of decades of his working life as an electronics inspector for 3-L in Sarasota.

Mike was active in the Marine Corps League, coached Little League, and was an avid bowler and enthusiastic fisherman.

Mike is survived by his two sons, Mike (Deborah) of Venice, and Gary (Belinda) of Greenville, SC. He will be missed by his seven grandchildren and 9 great grandchildren.

The family appreciates the help of Tidewell Hospice during Mike's last few days.

A funeral service will be held on Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 11:30 am at the Toale Brothers Ewing Funeral Home in Venice.

Burial will follow the service at 1:30 at Sarasota National Cemetery.

Tribute Wall

GC

“ Our deepest sympathy to Mike's family. My family and I have many fond memories of spending the day at Gerack's pool and enjoying Mike's smoked salmon. My dad, Hank Zarnoski, worked with Mike at L3 and had the utmost respect for him. They remained friends after retirement and enjoyed each other's company at the weekly gathering of retirees.

May Mike Rest In Peace.

Andrew, Gail, & AJ Capalong

Gail Capalong - May 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM



“ Mike was a heck of a horseshoe player as well, I'll never forget those Sunday afternoons as a kid growing up on Glen Oak when he and my Dad would face off. Great Guy. He would always lend a hand if you needed him.

My deepest sympathy to the family.

Gregg

May 18, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ We are going to miss you Mike. Your were my hero. May God bless you and prepare a special place in His Kingdom just for you.

Skip Paschke - May 17, 2017 at 12:00 AM

SO

“ Please accept my sympathy on the loss of your father, grandfather. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

With deepest sympathy,

Suzanne Bauer Otte.

Suzanne Bauer Otte - May 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

TJ

“ So sorry to hear of his passing. He was sure a Hero being a corps man! I was a US Marine, and always thought Corp men were the toughest Men in the Corps !

And to survive that Battle, he was a "HERO"

God Bless Mike and let him rest in Pease !

SEMPER fl mARINE

Ted & Claudia Johnson - May 16, 2017 at 12:00 AM

MW

“ Marie Willard lit a candle in memory of Michael George Gerack



Marie Willard - May 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM