



## SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee

April 1, 1953 - March 8, 2021

Gary Dean McGhee, son of the late Raymond Wilbur and Marjorie (Kiser) McGhee, was born April 1, 1953 in Jackson, Ohio.

As a young boy, Gary grew up in Oak Hill, Ohio and graduated from Jackson High School in Jackson, Ohio. Shortly after graduation, Gary entered into the United States Army and served his country faithfully during the Vietnam Conflict. He was transferred to Germany where he met the love of his life, Petra Schoenfelder. They were united in marriage on March 17, 1978 in Germany.

Gary continued in the United States Army until his retirement in 1992. He had attained the rank of Sergeant First Class and earned several awards and commendations; some of which include: National Defense Service Medal-2nd Award, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon-2nd Award, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon-3rd Award, Driver and Mechanic Badge, Army Achievement Medal-4th Award, Gold Recruiter Badge, Army Good conduct Medal-6th Award, Army Commendation Medal-3rd Award, Meritorious Service Medal and the Sharpshooter Qualification Badge M-16 Rifle.

After his retirement, Gary continued serving his country as a civil service employee. He served as a driver for the 35th Engineer Battalion and 31st

Engineer Battalion.

In his spare time, Gary enjoyed being outdoors while fishing and working in his yard. He loved to watch Westerns on television. Most importantly, he and Petra loved spending time together and her description of Gary is that he was a “loving husband and good provider”. He was also an outstanding friend and was willing to help any of his friends.

Gary passed away Monday, March 8, 2021 in his home having attained the age of 67 years. He will be sadly missed, but fondly remembered by all those that knew and loved him.

Gary leaves to cherish his memory, his wife: Petra McGhee of the home; three sisters: Ruth Pelfrey (Joe), Brenda Newkirk (Bob), and Donna Coyan (Ronald), all of the state of Ohio; one brother: Mike McGhee (Sybil) of the state of Ohio; other relatives and friends.

In addition to his parents, Gary was preceded in death by four brothers: Johnny, Donald, James, and Chuck.

Services were held at 12:00 p.m. Friday, March 12, 2021 in the Memorial Chapels and Crematory of Waynesville / St. Robert with Chaplain (MAJ) Joel Britton officiating. The songs “Heart of Gold” by Neil Young and “Go Rest High on that Mountain” by Vince Gill were played. Serving as escorts were family and friends. Burial with military honors followed in the Missouri Veterans Cemetery of Waynesville with military honors being provided by the Missouri Honors Team.

# Cemetery Details

## Missouri Veterans Cemetery - Fort Leonard Wood

25350 Hwy H  
Waynesville, MO 65583

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 12. 11:00 AM.

Memorial Chapels And Crematory Of Waynesville / St. Robert

## Funeral Service

MAR 12. 12:00 PM.

Memorial Chapels And Crematory Of Waynesville / St. Robert

# Tribute Wall



“ *Memorial Chapels and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee*



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**Memorial Chapels and Crematory** - March 19, 2021 at 02:36 PM



“ *SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee*

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January 28, 2023 at 06:53 AM



“ *Mein letzter Gruß*

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**Bärbel Schoenfelder** - March 27, 2021 at 06:26 AM



“ *Carmen Streb lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee*



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**carmen streb** - March 25, 2021 at 06:08 PM

AJ

“ *Alexandra Johnson lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee*



alexandra johnson - March 16, 2021 at 08:39 PM

MS

“ *Marge Scott sent a virtual gift in memory of SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee*



Marge Scott - March 13, 2021 at 12:08 PM

BK

“ *We are so sorry for your loss. Condolences to the family. Bettina and Eddie*



Bettina Klein-Spotts - March 12, 2021 at 10:18 AM

PG

“ *Pulaski County Camp Gideons lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee*



Pulaski County Camp Gideons - March 12, 2021 at 09:42 AM



“ 18 files added to the album LifeTributes



Memorial Chapels and Crematory - March 12, 2021 at 08:25 AM

LY

*Such a sad loss for Petra and his family. My condolences are sent to you all.*

Lisa Yoder - March 12, 2021 at 11:11 AM

SA

*I'm so very sorry to hear about Gary !! Prayers and love to you Petra !!*

Susan Arrington - March 17, 2021 at 01:27 AM

RR

“ Ralph And Chun Reid lit a candle in memory of SFC (Ret) Gary Dean McGhee



Ralph and Chun Reid - March 11, 2021 at 12:49 PM

CS

*Wir schicken unser Beileid an die Familie und wünschen Petra viel Kraft in der kommenden Zeit.*

carmen streb - March 12, 2021 at 01:06 PM