



Gerald O. Groves

February 15, 1932 - June 14, 2016

Gerald O. Groves, age 84, a long-time resident of Willow Springs, Missouri, passed away on June 14, 2016, following a lengthy illness.

Gerald was born in Laclede County, Missouri to Reverend Ewell and Florence (Williams) Groves. He graduated from the Plato High School in 1949 and spent the following year in Iowa before returning to Missouri, where he attended Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield. He taught three terms of elementary school at Nelson, Barnett, and Ivey schools, which were located in rural Laclede County, before joining the Lebanon Police Department as a police officer. In 1961, he was appointed to the Missouri State Highway Patrol as a trooper and was first assigned to Troop I, then later to Troop G. Gerald retired from the Patrol in 1990. Gerald was a Master Mason with AF & AM Masonic Lodge in Lebanon, Missouri and was a member of the South Central Missouri and Texas County Genealogy Societies. With a keen interest in local history, following his retirement, Gerald visited all of the villages, towns, and communities of Howell County, Missouri, becoming acquainted with their residents. Using the information provided by personal interviews with those residents and many months of research, he compiled and published five volumes of "Howell County, Missouri – Post Offices, Postmasters, and Their Communities".

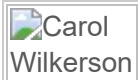
Gerald was preceded in death by his parents and one brother, Melvin Groves. He is survived by his wife Charlotte; their children, Steven and (Cheri) Groves of Rolla, Missouri, and Sondra and (Larry) Booker of Licking, Missouri; two

brothers, James Groves and wife Jacquie of Marco Island, Florida and Lyndell Groves of Republic, Missouri; a grandson, Dylan Carlson; a great granddaughter, Sidney Carlson; numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, and a great many friends and acquaintances.

Gerald believed that “everyone has an interesting story to tell”, and whether the story was personal, sad, or amusing, he was interested.

Honoring the request of the deceased, no funeral services are planned. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital, or a charity of the donor’s choice. Arrangements are under the direction of Willow Funeral Home. On-line condolences may be expressed at www.willowspringfuneralhome.com

Tribute Wall



Carol
Wilkerson

“ *Many years ago Gerald contacted me to share information about my great grandfather Harvey Lawson Smith who died in 1899 from meningitis. Gerald had found the information in the old Howell County Gazette newspaper. It was so nice of him to do the research for me and share it out of the goodness of his heart. May he rest in peace.*

Carol Wilkerson - February 21, 2019 at 02:43 PM



MC

“ *Aunt Charlotte, I am not sure where to start here...as I have often told you...you guys have been as big an influence on my life as anyone in this world. I can't imagine where I would be in my life without you all. Uncle Gerald's love and influence have been passed down to my own children, who each have a keen awareness of how much you two mean to our family. I know this is a remarkably difficult time. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers everyday. We love you guys. Mark and Grace*

Mark Carver - July 12, 2016 at 01:06 AM

RP

“ Years ago, I used to walk in the early mornings with Gerald. He used to tell me wonderful stories of the history of the area and its people. He could identify all the flowers and plants we passed and their uses. He was a man with sparkling wit and understanding and compassion for his fellow man.



This world is poorer for his absence.

God bless you, Charlotte. He loved you so much.

RoseAnna Prater - June 22, 2016 at 03:59 PM

LW

“ I remember the day Gerald came to Troop G and we have remained fast friends since. We spent hours and hours talking at work and continued to be kindred spirits in the years following each of our retirements. Gerald was a steadfast, kind and gentle man, brilliant in so many things. We shared a passion for history, or perhaps it was an obsession! We were never short for conversation. Charlotte, thank you for sharing Gerald with us, and for your longtime friendship too. -Lou Wehmer

Lou Wehmer - June 15, 2016 at 02:37 PM

 Rich
Thompson

“ Miss Charlotte I'm sorry to hear about Gerald, he was a good man. I remember him picking me up and us going on patrol, that was so fun for me as a teen. He will certainly be missed.

Rich Thompson - June 15, 2016 at 12:34 PM

PB

“ Charlotte,
I'm so sorry to hear that Gerald is gone, he was a great man. We
will be praying for you.
Mike and Pam Boyle

pam boyle - June 14, 2016 at 08:02 PM

IM

“ So sorry for your loss. Gerald was very good to work with and I will
always remember his kindness.

Ida McClellan - June 14, 2016 at 06:06 PM

TT

“ Miss Charlotte I am so sorry to hear about Gerald, he was one
amazing man. I always enjoyed talking to the two of you and you
both have always held a special place in my hear. He will sure be
missed.

Tina Thompson

Tina Thompson - June 14, 2016 at 01:36 PM

LC

Charlotte, I am so sorry to hear about Gerald. You both hold a special
place in my heart. My girls have so many good memories of you and
Gerald and coming to your house on Halloween. Praying for God to
comfort you.

Lou Ann

Lou Ann Collins - June 14, 2016 at 03:50 PM

LI

Ms. Charlotte, May God bless and comfort you during this time of your loss. Mr. Gerald was a wonderful person and I appreciated the time that I worked with him and got to know him. He was very kind and nice to me. I enjoyed the visits we had.

Lionel - June 14, 2016 at 09:48 PM

MT

Charlotte, Don and I always had the greatest respect for Gerald and we were sorry to learn of his passing. He was such a kind gentleman and will be greatly missed by all who came in contact with him. I am glad to have had the privilege of working with him and will treasure the many visits spent in his presence. God love you and keep you in His care through this sad time.

Marlene

Marlene Turner - June 16, 2016 at 08:53 AM