



## Gary J Williams

August 10, 1960 - January 23, 2024

Gary James Williams 8/10/60-1/23/24

Gary Williams (63) of Bloomington, MN passed away peacefully, surrounded by family and friends, after a short but fierce battle with cancer.

Gary is survived by his wife, Kathie of Bloomington; five children: Gary Williams Jr., Nicole (Matt) Gohman, Micah (Jessica) Williams, Brett Williams, Noah Williams; grandchildren: Anthony, Nina, Aydrian, Jordyn, Landon, Kenzi, Rylie, and Madison; siblings: Jerry Williams, Debra (Chad) Krohnfeldt, and Denise (Jim) Rincon; five nephews; many cousins, as well as his beloved orange kitties Sir Julius and Mr. Paul and many, many friends. Gary is preceded in death by his parents, Gail and Gerald Williams, and many aunts and uncles, including Uncle Harley, with whom he was very close.

Gary grew up in Richfield, MN, the 3rd of 4 siblings. He graduated from Richfield High School in 1979. He dedicated several years to Le Bistro restaurant, starting in high school and taking on various roles that showcased his hard work and determination.

Gary married Katherine Schultz on October 12, 1985. He went on to his next employment journey, serving as an apprentice at Southtown Plumbing in Richfield, MN. Eventually, he became a master plumber, owning his own business, Renew Plumbing, for over 30 years. Gary was an honest business

owner who strived to offer his customers top-notch services. He was active in the Boy Scouts and Hometown Church, where he served on many mission trips to Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Germany, and he very much valued family relationships. He also had a great love for orange cats! Gary found enjoyment in attending his son's and grandchildren's sporting activities, offering too many treats to his grandchildren, and making people laugh with his quirky jokes. Gary will be remembered for his many unique qualities, including his sense of humor, valuable advice, unwavering work ethic, selfless nature, role as a loving father and husband, loyalty as a friend, goofy personality, honesty with everyone, and profound generosity. He made an impact on many lives.

Gary's family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the nurses at Fairview Southdale Hospital, 8th floor, and 3rd floor, for the exceptional care and love they showed to Gary and his family.

We are comforted knowing Gary is now with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. His body is healed, and he is living in joy and peace in his eternal home. The final Bible verse Gary shared with us was: John 3:16, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." Gary knew where the next part of his journey would take place.

Gary's Celebration of Life will be held at Hometown Church, where he was a long-time member, on Saturday, March 9, 2024, in Bloomington, MN. Visitation at 1 PM, service at 2 PM, followed by light refreshments including some of Gary's favorite snacks and treats. Come as you are, casual dress.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Gary's honor to the Humane Society of Freeborn County, the Boy Scouts of Bloomington-Troop 446, or Melanoma Research Foundation. We will donate any gifts to these

organizations.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 9. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Hometown Church - Bloomington Campus  
2300 E. 88th St.  
Bloomington, MN 55425

## Memorial Service

MAR 9. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Hometown Church - Bloomington Campus  
2300 E. 88th St.  
Bloomington, MN 55425

# Tribute Wall



“ Our thoughts and prayers go to Gary's entire extended family. Gary was always such a thoughtful, positive and hard working person. We will think of you as you gather to celebrate his wonderful life! - The O'Neills

Tim O'Neill - July 17, 2024 at 09:52 AM

JM

“ I was very sorry to hear of Gary's passing. I was a fortunate customer of his excellent plumbing services. He was so straightforward and honest. You never came away feeling like you hadn't gotten your money's worth. In fact a couple of times, he fixed other things I didn't realize needed fixing, just because he was already there. He frequently was accompanied by one of his sons, and just seemed like an all around great guy. After his passing, I learned that he was heavily involved in the Boy Scouts and several members of our Troop (439) knew him from previous scouting trips. Apparently, he generously donated some frequent flyer miles towards a high adventure trip that helped lower the cost for everyone else. It's nice to hear and read so many stories about a nice guy that had such an effect on so many people's lives. He will be missed.

Jessica Madsen - April 28, 2024 at 10:13 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gary J Williams.



March 08, 2024 at 10:10 AM

FG

“ From Bruce Walker & Connie Goss planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary J Williams.

From Bruce Walker & Connie Goss - March 08, 2024 at 10:10 AM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Gary J Williams.



March 05, 2024 at 09:55 AM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Denise Rincon - February 20, 2024 at 02:39 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Denise Rincon - February 20, 2024 at 02:38 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Denise Rincon** - February 20, 2024 at 02:27 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Denise Rincon** - February 20, 2024 at 02:25 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Denise Rincon** - February 20, 2024 at 02:21 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Denise Rincon - February 20, 2024 at 02:17 PM

DR

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Denise Rincon - February 20, 2024 at 02:15 PM

KW

“ 3 files added to the album Dad



Kathie Williams - February 07, 2024 at 09:18 PM



“ Ringed by Love was purchased for the family of Gary J Williams.



February 07, 2024 at 03:54 PM

KS

“ I believe I met Gary in 1978 through another High School friend in Edina. Gary was from the "hated" Richfield school district and, living in Edina, was a "cake eater".

*Initially we bonded over our mutual love of cars and driving, later to land a summer job working in the kitchen at LeBistro, where Gary was the lead cook/chef. Not only did Gary run the back end of the Restaurant, but he also worked as a mechanic at Lynn's Amoco. If I'm not mistaken, this energizer bunny of a man worked 104 straight days without a day off. Day in, day out he just worked. 2 feet of snow did not slow him - he was the first one into work.*

*His hard work was both inspiring and dizzying. Still, it was his calm friendship and his willingness to help others that left an indelible mark on me. Rare was the occasion when he outwardly expressed anger; instead, he harnessed that energy with inner resolve and applied it to be better.*

*Some people are said to have a dry sense of humor. In that regard, Gary was the Sahara desert. Always listening, his sharp wit lurking for an opportunity to jump out and his wicked smirk to slowly appear. True to form, Gary continued to make others smile with amazing timing even when his last breaths approached. Gary, struggling for life, told my wife to take care of me and then slipped in a comment that I had purchased an additional two collector cars as a surprise to my wife (not true). His magic made the entire hospital room burst aloud. Selfless. Brilliant*

*I was witness to his passion for family and was fortunate to have attended his weddings. While career choices had us drift apart, our occasional meetings and phone calls always picked up where we had left off. No matter what was happening in our lives, what struggles we might encounter, I always ended my calls with a smile because of Gary.*

*Look at the pictures of him with his family. He never worried about*

*looking silly or playing the role of the clown who was made fun of. He did whatever he could to make others feel joy.*

*Gary taught me plenty about things, but I will always remember what he taught me about hope, faith and friendship. Everyone would be fortunate to have a friend like Gary in their lives. I will carry his influence with me all of my days and I look forward to reuniting with him some day.*

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**Kurt von Schmidt-Pauli** - February 06, 2024 at 11:16 PM

TR

“ *Whenever I got to spend time with Gary and Kathie's children I was impressed with what a great parents Gary and Kathie were. Their kind, gentle, generous nature certainly got passed on to the next generation! I'm just sorry that we live so far away. We send lots of love and prayers!*

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**Tom Rice** - February 05, 2024 at 03:32 PM

DF

“ *Hello , I didn't get to know Gary in High School, however at the 40 year reunion I met a man ( Gary) that was the Best Servant Leader , kindest man I think I've ever met before!*

*In addition earlier when Gary was hospitalized and treated his health I was awarded the opportunity to pray with and for him! I could say Gary is a stellar example of Thee measure of a man!*

*Dave Forpahl-*

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**Dave Forpahl** - February 04, 2024 at 05:15 PM

SH

“ I found Gary on Facebook and was happy to hire a Richfield classmate. During the hour he spent fixing my plumbing, he shared his story of life and faith. What a genuine guy! Sending peace to his family.

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**sara Houser** - February 04, 2024 at 03:46 PM

SD

“ I remember Gary as a kind and very genuine human being. May he rest in peace. My deepest condolences.

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**Sandra Darrow** - February 03, 2024 at 08:49 PM

KW

“ 70 files added to the album Dad



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**Kathie Williams** - February 03, 2024 at 08:37 PM

CO

“ You will be greatly missed you were one of my favorite cousins

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**Coley Olson** - February 03, 2024 at 11:49 AM

DF

“ My deepest Condolences 🌸 to your family,  
Just found this now. For I only new him a little , I met this man after  
school days, what a gentslmen  
With the biggest heart ❤️ I've ever seen.

*Bless you all, Dave Forpahl see ya up there Gary.*

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**Dave Forpahl** - February 02, 2024 at 07:41 PM

MD

*I have known thousands of people in my life. Gary Williams was one of the kindest, one of the most generous men I have ever known. I had the privilege of being his Pastor for many years, of watching his faith grow. What a servants heart this man had for others. Gary was a very, very rare man. More than once he came to my aide with an emergency plumbing problem, always with a sense of humor, and an eagerness to help. I thank God for letting me know this wonderful man.*

*Gary lived the scripture, "The servant of all is the greatest of all." He was great in the eyes of God.*

*May God comfort and sustain you as you mourn the loss of your husband, father, and grandfather.*

*Gary, I will miss you greatly. Can't wait to see you again in our eternal home.*

*Thank you for you life.  
Pastor Mark Darling*

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**mark darling** - February 03, 2024 at 10:25 AM