



Steven Lee Gartland

July 15, 1954 - October 8, 2025

Eden Prairie, MN - Steve Gartland, 71, passed away on October 8, 2025, from ocular melanoma. Born July 15, 1954, in San Antonio, TX, Steve was the eldest of four children of Harold and Donna Gartland. A Gustavus Adolphus graduate with an M.Div. from LSTC, he served congregations in Harris, Hopkins, Long Lake, and Golden Valley, later working as Midwest Regional Director of Alpha USA until retiring in 2019.

Steve married his high school sweetheart, Merlajean (Nielsen), in 1976. He is survived by children Janna (Jeff) Nobleza, Luke (Bre) Gartland, grandson Zander, siblings, Chinese host students, and many friends.

Steve said everyone dies, and he accepts his own death. He says he is going to heaven to wait for Merlajean.

Service Saturday, October 18, at 11 a.m., Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, Plymouth. Memorials preferred to Mount Olivet Racial Equity (write check to Mount Olivet with "MORE" in the memo line) or to Mayo Clinic (write Cancer Research in the memo line).

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **18**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (Plymouth)
12235 Old Rockford Road
Plymouth, MN 55441

Memorial Service

OCT **18**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Mount Olivet Lutheran Church (Plymouth)
12235 Old Rockford Road
Plymouth, MN 55441

Tribute Wall

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“ *I just read about Steve meeting Jesus face-to-face today. I met him in 1998. My heart aches. May God comfort you. Sandy Tellinghusen*

Sandy Tellinghusen - March 14 at 10:13 AM