



Gerald W. "Jerry" Toole, 77, of Decatur, passed away on Friday, January 15, 2016 at Parkview Regional Medical Center in Ft. Wayne from complications of kidney disease. Jerry was born on December 9, 1938 to the late Charles J. and Olga V. (Wiebers) Toole. On November 6, 1964, he married Mary Jo Mink. Always quick with a joke or a story, Jerry liked to tell people he selected his sweetheart from the Sears and Roebuck catalogue because they met and started dating while working at Sears in Lafayette.

Jerry is survived by his loving wife of 51 years, Mary Jo, his son, Gary Toole and his wife Diana and young grandson, Roland, from Michigan; his daughter, Lori Einfalt and her husband Mark and three adult grandchildren, Riley, Kelsey and Jerry Connor Einfalt from Texas; his brother Mike (Vicky) Toole of Lafayette, and two sisters Sally (Jim) Stacey and Barbara (Ed) Carey from Otterbein, many extended family members and numerous close friends. Jerry Toole was preceded in death by his oldest son, Larry, and his youngest brother, Joe Toole, both of whom he loved dearly.

Born and raised in Otterbein, Indiana, Jerry spent most of his adult life in the community of Decatur. He was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus. He proudly served his country in the United States Army in Germany during peacetime. He also took great pride in his work. Jerry was a former Street Commissioner, he was self employed as a heavy equipment operator, and also worked for Monsanto, Setser Excavating, Randy Everett, and J & L Construction and Excavating.

Jerry enjoyed being outdoors and delighted in taking his grandkids fishing and teaching them "skills" they would need in life. He was a great fan of racing and converted many family members into Nascar fans over the years. Jerry rooted for Notre Dame all his life, played a mean game of cards, liked to watch the birds and feed the squirrels from his back porch, took pleasure in a good soak in the hot tub, relished a cold beer with friends and savored two kinds of pie (hot or cold). He loved life and lived his well!

Visitation will be from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 19th, at Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Home with reciting of the Holy Rosary at 3:30 p.m.

A Mass of the Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 20, 2016 at St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church with calling from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. in the St. Mary's Parish Hall. Father David Voors will be officiating. A luncheon for friends and family will be held after the Funeral Mass in the Parish Hall. Burial will be in the Marion National Cemetery at a later date.

Memorial donations may be made to St. Vincent De Paul Society or A.C.C.F. Angel Cancer Fund.

The Toole family extends heartfelt appreciation to family, friends, and the medical professionals who have supported Jerry over the years.

Haggard-Sefton & Hirschy Funeral Homes online obit (accessed 1/27/2016)