



## Jerry L. VanOppen

August 11, 1951 - June 6, 2022

Jerry L. VanOppen, 70, of Peoria, passed away at home after a short battle with pancreatic cancer on Monday, June 6, 2022. He was born in Peoria on August 11, 1951, to Delbert and Eileen (Young) VanOppen. He married his best friend since middle school, Cheryl Coffey, in Hanna City on August 19, 1972; she survives.

Also surviving are his children, Tammy (Megan McKee) VanOppen of Peoria, Chad (Andrea) VanOppen of Washington, and Trisha (Blake) Hoogerwerf of Bartonville; and his four grandchildren, Makenna, Dylan, Damien, and Brayden.

He was preceded in death by his parents; his brother, James; and his infant twin brother, Terry.

Jerry retired from Caterpillar after 42 years as a machine operator.

He loved nothing more than being a husband, dad and grandpa. He coached his kids in sports and continued to support his grandchildren in their events through the years. In his spare time, he enjoyed woodworking. He was a member of the Caterpillar Retiree's Breakfast Club and loved camping with family and dear friends at Stonefort Campground and feeding his fish bread on the lake.

Visitation will be from 5-7 p.m. on Thursday, June 9, 2022, at Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services in East Peoria. A Funeral Service will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 10, 2022, at the funeral home, with burial following at Swan Lake Memory Gardens in Peoria.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Bartonville St. Jude Runners at [https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/PeoriaRuns/PeoriaRuns?px=2513061&pg=personal&fr\\_id=136312](https://fundraising.stjude.org/site/TR/PeoriaRuns/PeoriaRuns?px=2513061&pg=personal&fr_id=136312) Online condolences may be left at [www.GaryDeitersFH.com](http://www.GaryDeitersFH.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Swan Lake Memory Gardens

4601 Route 150  
Peoria, IL

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN **9**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria  
444 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611

## Funeral Service

JUN **10**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services Inc. - East Peoria  
444 E. Washington Street  
East Peoria, IL 61611

# Tribute Wall



“ Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Jerry L. VanOppen



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**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 10, 2022 at 10:18 AM



“ Jerry L. VanOppen

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October 08, 2023 at 04:50 PM



“ Tammy and Family,  
Thinking of you with friendship and prayers . We are so sorry to hear of your Dad's passing.  
May all the love of Family and friends help with your grief and bring smiles of happy memories.  
Dan and Janice C.

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**Janice Cunningham** - June 10, 2022 at 10:09 PM



“ So many fun memories at the Phoenix on Thursday nights! I hope your memories can ease your pain through this very difficult time.  
Very sorry for your loss! Hugs and prayers to you all! 💔

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**Nancy Thompson** - June 09, 2022 at 01:45 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Jerry L. VanOppen.*



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June 09, 2022 at 01:05 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Jerry L. VanOppen.*



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June 09, 2022 at 11:23 AM



“ *Crystal Cross Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerry L. VanOppen.*



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June 09, 2022 at 09:08 AM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerry L. VanOppen.*



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June 08, 2022 at 04:57 PM



“ 29 files added to the album Life Tributes



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**Gary Deiters Funeral Home & Cremation Services** - June 08, 2022 at 03:01 PM

DR

“ Cheryl, we are so sorry to hear about Jerry's passing. He was a great man and will be missed. I will miss our driveway chats as we passed by each other and know he will be looking down from above cheering on the family in all their doings. Our thoughts and prayers will be with you and your family.  
Dave and Cheryl Richards

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**dave richards** - June 08, 2022 at 08:49 AM

TO

“ Sorry to hear of Jerry's passing, always remember him having a great smile and a caring man. We are on vacation and not able to attend services, my condolences to your family.

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**Tom O'Neill** - June 08, 2022 at 08:21 AM

RK

“ So sorry to all of the family for their loss of great man. Our hearts, love and prayers are with you all!! I will miss him calling me "LUCKY" at the lake !!!!!

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**Richard Kerr** - June 07, 2022 at 09:31 PM

SP

“ Cheryl and family

*I am so sorry about Jerry's passing. He was a great guy and will be missed by all. I am sure your great memories will help. I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.*

*Sandy Partlow*

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**Sandy Partlow** - June 07, 2022 at 08:54 PM

PS

*Jerry always had a smile. We will surely miss him, but he is in a better place.*

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**Pam Smith** - June 08, 2022 at 05:06 PM

CM

*Cheryl & family, we are so sorry to hear of Jerry's sudden passing...always enjoyed visiting with you & Jerry at all these weddings we attended. May God be with you & your family in this sad time. Our thoughts & prayers are with you all.*

*Sincerely, Carole & Pat McKee*

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**Carole McKee** - June 09, 2022 at 07:21 PM