



Brent Joseph Gerken

February 1, 1981 - September 4, 2021

Brent Joseph Gerken, 40, of Napoleon, Ohio passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, September 4, 2021. He was born in Napoleon on February 1, 1981, to Timothy Gerken and Deborah Ellerbrock. Brent married Emily Ohlrich on June 15, 2013, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township.

Brent was a confirmed member of St. Peter Lutheran Church but regularly attended St Paul's Napoleon Twp. After high school, he earned his associates degree at Northwest State in Mechanical Engineering. Brent was employed at Sauder Woodworking for 15 years and spent most of that time working as a maintenance technician. Brent was an avid outdoorsman who enjoyed hunting and trapping. He was always ready to lend a hand for those in need, no matter the size of the job. Brent liked to spend time with his family, especially outside and around the pond. He found great joy spending time with his daughter, taking rides to see grandparents, playing special songs, and dancing around to "Sugar Sugar."

Brent is survived by his wife Emily; daughter, Cora; parents, Timothy (Deborah) Gerken and Deborah (Larry) LaForrest; brother Blake (Morgan) Gerken; stepsiblings, Erin (Victor Williams) Booth, Noah (Lori) Bowen, and Neidera LaForrest; and grandparents, Kenneth (Elaine) Harris. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Victor Gerken and Jim (Edna) Vajen.

Friends and family will be received at the Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home, Napoleon, on Saturday, September 11, 2021, from 2:00 PM until 8:00 PM. Funeral Services will be held on Sunday, September 12, 2021, at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Napoleon Township at 2:00 PM with an hour of visitation prior to services. Interment will take place at the church cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to the church or for Cora's education in care of, Emily Gerken. Online messages and condolences may be shared with the family at rodenbergergray.com.

Cemetery Details

St. Paul Lutheran Church Cemetery- Napoleon Township

16976 County Road Q1
Napoleon, OH 43545

Previous Events

Public Viewing

SEP 11. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Rodenberger Funeral Home - Napoleon
1010 Westmoreland Avenue
Napoleon, OH 43545

Public Viewing

SEP 12. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Napoleon Township
16976 County Road Q1
Napoleon, OH 43545

Funeral Service

SEP 12. 2:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Napoleon Township
16976 County Road Q1
Napoleon, OH 43545

Tribute Wall



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.* ”



September 14, 2021 at 07:33 AM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you. I didn't know Brent but worked with Tim some years ago. Have suffered through the same situation so my heart aches for you.* ”

Scott Chamberlin - September 11, 2021 at 01:05 PM



“ *Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.* ”



September 11, 2021 at 08:37 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.* ”



September 10, 2021 at 05:08 PM

SK

“ Although we don't know you personally, our son Bo Krukowski graduated with Brent from Napoleon High, and you have our heartfelt sympathy. Jesus bless you all and hold you in the palm oh His hand. Christian Peace and Love, Stanley and Susie Krukowski



Stanley and Susie Krukowski - September 10, 2021 at 03:36 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.



September 10, 2021 at 01:02 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.



September 09, 2021 at 08:47 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.



September 09, 2021 at 06:42 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.*



September 09, 2021 at 06:35 PM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.*



September 09, 2021 at 06:21 PM



“ *Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.*



September 09, 2021 at 04:40 PM



“ *Neidera and Nancy purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.*



Neidera and Nancy - September 09, 2021 at 02:26 PM

SH

“ I had Brent in my catechism class at St. Peter in Florida. He was always a very nice young man. For Christmas he gave me a stained glass sun catcher of Jesus standing by the door. I opened it and it had a small break in the corner. I told him it was fine, but he said no and took it from me. You could tell he was embarrassed. The following week he had a brand new one and a big smile on his face. I have put that in my kitchen window at Christmas every year since. It will now have a more significant meaning to me. God bless. Sue Hoffman

Sue Hoffman - September 09, 2021 at 12:50 PM



“ Emily, I am so sorry to hear of Brent's passing. I will not be able to make it to the visitation but wanted to let you know that I am thinking of you.

Jodi Irving - September 08, 2021 at 08:42 PM



“ Garden Accent - A heart of gold stopped beating... was purchased for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.



September 08, 2021 at 07:18 PM

DB

“ Brent was a wonderful person and family man that care about other people. Our sympathy goes out to his family Emily and Cora. Rest In Peace Brent and your memories will live forever. Dave and Barb Baumgart

Dave Baumgart - September 08, 2021 at 06:51 PM

MF

“ *Brent was always the easiest guy to talk to about anything and always cheerful. Very much a blessing to have known and worked with in life.*

Mike Franz - September 08, 2021 at 06:12 PM

TB

“ *Tom & Tracy Metzger, Bill & Pat Barton purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Brent Joseph Gerken.*



Tom & Tracy Metzger, Bill & Pat Barton - September 08, 2021 at 09:12 AM

RC

“ *Our thoughts and sympathies go out to you Emily and Cora on the sudden lost of Brent. Know that you are supported by many and hold those memories close to your heart during this difficult time. Rita (Oberhaus) Carter.*

Rita (Oberhaus) Carter - September 06, 2021 at 05:28 PM

TM

Brent was such a positive, hard working person and he was always smiling. Prayers of strength for the family.

Tracy Metzger - September 08, 2021 at 08:54 AM