



Gene Arthur Crawford

June 24, 1937 - October 26, 2023

Gene Arthur Crawford, 86, of Napoleon, Ohio died peacefully on Thursday, October 26th, 2023 at CHP Defiance Area Inpatient Hospice Center with his wife by his side.

Gene was born June 24th, 1937 in Napoleon, Ohio to the late Mearl and Laretta (Plotts) Crawford. On February 15, 1959 he married Phyllis (Hoff) Crawford at St. John United Church of Christ, Holgate.

Gene was a 1955 graduate of Napoleon High School and served in the United States Army National Guard. He has been a grain farmer for over 55 years. Gene was a member of St. John UCC Church, Henry County Farm Bureau, and Ohio Farm Bureau. He enjoyed polka dancing and line dancing with his wife, Phyllis.

He is also survived by his children, Jane (Toby) Runyan and Terry G. Crawford; grandchildren, Kristen (Zachary) Schmidt and Melissa (Rabih) Assaf; great grandchildren; Aleah, Aurora, Alexis, Taalia, and Ameilia; and brother and sisters-in-law, Arlene Knapp, Virginia (Robert) Gray, Junior (Mick) Hoff, and Kay (Keith) Winne. He was also preceded in death a brother-in-law, James Knapp, and sister-in-law and Janet Hoff.

A funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Oct. 30th at St. John UCC Church, Holgate. Interment will be held at 2:30 p.m. at Riverview Memory Gardens.

Visitation will be held on Sunday Oct. 29th from 1-5 p.m. at Rodenberger-Gray Funeral Home and Monday from 10-11 a.m. at the church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be donated to St. John UCC Church.
Online condolences can be left for the family at www.rodembergergray.com

Cemetery Details

Riverview Memory Gardens

29321 County Rd 424
Defiance, OH 43512

Previous Events

Public Viewing

OCT **30**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's United Church of Christ
I-946 St. Route 108
Holgate, OH 43527

Funeral Service

OCT **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's United Church of Christ
I-946 St. Route 108
Holgate, OH 43527

Tribute Wall



“ Linda O. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gene Arthur Crawford.

Linda O. - October 30, 2023 at 10:53 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gene Arthur Crawford.

October 28, 2023 at 08:42 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gene Arthur Crawford.



October 28, 2023 at 08:42 PM

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“ From the frozen tundra of Korea to fields and forests of war-torn Europe to the jungles of Southeast Asia, from the deserts of Kuwait and Iraq to the mountains of Afghanistan, brave patriots have protected our nation’s ideals, rescued millions from tyranny, and helped spread freedom around the globe. America’s veterans answered the call when asked to protect our nation from some of the most brutal oppression the world has ever known.

Military service demands a special kind of sacrifice. The places where you are sent to live and serve bring risk every day. From the time you put on that uniform for the first time, the interests of the nation move to the forefront and define your life. Those duties are shared by family members who make many sacrifices of their own, sometimes bearing the burden of losing a loved one.

Service brings rewards as well. There is the pride in developing one’s own character, serving a cause far greater than self-interest. Every person who wears America’s uniform is part of a long, unbroken line of achievement and honor. No single military power in history has done greater good, shown greater courage, liberated more people or upheld higher standards of decency and valor than the Armed Forces of the United States of America.

That is a legacy to be proud of and those who contributed to it must never be taken for granted. To honor our veterans, we must keep the promises we have made to them. We must care for those who have been injured in the service of our country. We must honor and remember those who have died. And we must remember those whose fate is still undetermined. We fly the Prisoner of War flag on Veterans Day for a reason, to show that this nation will not relent until we have accounted for every one of our missing Americans. Thank you for your service. Thank you for all that you have sacrificed for this great nation. Thank you for being the backbone of America.

Brigadier General (Retired) Mark W. Lee, United States Army

BG (R) Dr. Mark W. Lee - October 28, 2023 at 07:17 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gene Arthur Crawford.*



October 28, 2023 at 03:37 PM



“ *Our sympathy goes out to Phyllis and the Crawford family. You are in our thoughts and prayers. Kevin and Tammy Vajen*

Kevin Vajen - October 28, 2023 at 01:15 PM



“ *Phyllis & family- so sorry for your loss. Lots of great times my parents shared with you and Gene. You have our sympathy. Anne & John Taylor and the Franz Family.*

Anne Taylor - October 28, 2023 at 09:48 AM