



## Ronald H. Gerken

July 17, 1931 - May 22, 2016

Ronald Herman Gerken, 84, of Deshler, Ohio died Sunday, May 22, 2016 at his residence.

He was born July 17, 1931 in Richfield Township, Henry County, Ohio to the late Carl and Adina (Hauschild) Gerken. On November 13, 1954 he married Carol Ann Willford and they shared over 61 years of marriage together before her passing on February 4, 2016.

Ronald served as Sergeant with the 40th MP Company in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He returned home from his service and was a lifetime farmer in rural Deshler. He was a faithful member of St. John Lutheran Church, Deshler; lifetime member of Deshler American Legion Post #316 and formerly on the Deshler Farmers Elevator Board. In 2004 he was honored to receive his Patrick Henry High School diploma at a Veteran's Graduation Ceremony at the University of Toledo.

He is survived by his children, Susan (Kenneth) Brooks; Pandora, Ohio; James (Joann) Gerken, Deshler; John (Mary Jean) Gerken, Union, Kentucky; 5 grandchildren, Andrew Brooks; Kathryn (Jeremiah) Brown; Steven (Allison) Gerken; Scott Gerken; Samantha Gerken; 4 great grandchildren, Carter, Molly, Kenzie, Cooper; sisters, Rita (Louis) Mahlman, Deshler; Rena Ide, Elkhart, Indiana.

He was also preceded in death by infant son, Steven William Gerken and sisters, Ruby Gerken and Ruth Lange.

Services are 11:30 a.m., Thursday at St. John Lutheran Church, Deshler.

Graveside military honors will follow in the church cemetery.

Visitation is 2-8 p.m., Wednesday at Rodenberger Funeral Home, Deshler and 10:30-11:30 a.m., Thursday at church.

Memorials are suggested to St. Johns Lutheran Church, Bridge Hospice or Donor's Choice.

[www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com](http://www.rodenbergerfuneralhome.com)

# Cemetery Details

## St. John's Lutheran Church Cemetery

St. Rt. 65  
Deshler, OH 43516

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 25.** 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Napoleon Funeral Home  
1010 Westmoreland Avenue  
Napoleon, OH 43545  
(419) 592-2333  
[help@rodenbergergray.com](mailto:help@rodenbergergray.com)

## Visitation

**MAY 26.** 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church, Deshler  
St. Rt. 65 & Rd. G  
Deshler, OH 43516

## Service

**MAY 26.** 11:30 AM (ET)

St. John Lutheran Church, Deshler  
St. Rt. 65 & Rd. G  
Deshler, OH 43516



# Tribute Wall

AD

“ *My deepest sympathies to John and Family. I consider you to be my brother. Your family was so integral with mine when we were growing up. I cannot imagine how hard it is to lose both parents at relatively the same time. I hope you can feel some peace that they are together once again. My thoughts are with you and your loved ones.*

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**Amy Deason** - May 26, 2016 at 01:18 PM

KL

“ *Sending our sincere sympathy for your loss. I always enjoyed chatting with both your parents. Such wonderful people. Praying for your comfort. Kathy & Steve Lieb*



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**Kathy & Steve Lieb** - May 24, 2016 at 07:08 PM