



Luther Eugene "Gene" Kennedy

September 12, 1927 - October 4, 2023

Luther Eugene "Gene" Kennedy formerly of Sunizona passed away Wednesday morning, October 4, 2023, in Tucson at the age of 96. He was born in Santa Rita, New Mexico on September 12, 1927, to Luther Ivis Kennedy and Henry Ethel (Muckelvane) Kennedy. Gene was a retired farmer and Agricultural Chemical business owner. He enjoyed doing rope sculptures, wood carving, arts and crafts of all sorts. Gene also baked bread, and his peanut brittle and Carmel corn were the best! He was a 60-year member of Willcox Masonic Lodge #10 and Shriners of Willcox. June Virginia McDougal first saw Gene pitching in a baseball game. They quickly became high school sweethearts and were married in 1947 in Deming, New Mexico. They moved to Elfrida, Arizona in 1948 and began farming and ranching. In 1952 they welcomed a daughter Patricia and in 1957 they welcomed a daughter Jill. In 1979 they moved to Sunizona, Arizona where they lived until moving to Tucson in 2006. Gene is survived by his wife June Virginia Kennedy, daughters Patrica (Joe) McDonald and Jill (Jerry) Ellis and grandchildren Shannon(Jeff) Hildrith, Kimberly (Jerod) Watts, Joseph "Gene" McDonald, and Paul (Melanie) Ellis along with 5 great grandchildren and 2 great great grandchildren. Preceding him in death were his brothers Ike Kennedy and Bob Kennedy and his sister Vera Mae Anderson. He was so gentle, so loving and respectable. Gene was a prime example of how every person should live their life. A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date to be announced.

Tribute Wall

AS

“ *My sincere condolences & prayers go out to the Kennedy family & both Jill & Patricia. He was the kindest and most loving family man I have ever known. I remember All our trips to Elfrida on the farm & going quail hunting. My mother & dad had treated us to so many wonderful days spent with June & Gene & the girls. I stayed in contact over the years with Gene thru social media & would always look forward to hearing from him & catching up on life. Thank you Gene for ALL my great memories. We will meet again in Heaven.*
Love Allan

Allan Sewell - April 03, 2024 at 01:12 PM

HE

“ *I have so many memories of Gene, June, Trisha and Jill! It would be impossible to narrow down to just 1 memory....What an amazing family!*
Gene was the epitome of a loving husband and father, friend and neighbor. Loving, kind, respectful, respectable, smiling, good to everyone....We should all strive to be like Gene and June and Trisha and Jill!
We love you all! We're holding each of you in our thoughts and prayers.

Helen - October 07, 2023 at 06:38 PM

BA

“ *Betsy Cary Ajeman lit a candle in memory of Luther Kennedy*



Betsy & Cary Ajeman - October 07, 2023 at 06:24 PM