



Richard P. Gaver

July 22, 1924 - September 3, 2011

ADRIAN – Richard Park Gaver passed away peacefully on September 3, 2011, surrounded by his family.

Richard was born in Eden Township – Upper Sandusky, Ohio on July 22, 1924. He was preceded in death by parents Mary and George Gaver, wife, Helen (1985), son Charles (1989), and sisters Kathryn Kyle and Mary Jane Powell. He is survived by two daughters, Pamela Somers and Jill (John) Johnson, both of Adrian. He has four grandsons, Bryan (Stephanie) Somers, Joel Somers, Benjamin and Kyle Johnson, 3 great grandchildren Sidney, Raegan and Keith which he enjoyed dearly along with family friends, Carole Flores, Sally Seel Simpkins and son-in-law Stephen Somers.

Mr. Gaver served as a Staff Sergeant in the United States Army – Infantry 44th Division in World War II – European Theater. While in battle he received 2 Purple Hearts with oak leaf cluster, a Bronze Star and a Presidential unit Citation.

In 1948 he graduated from the College of Wooster and later did graduate work at Kent State University. Richard was a teacher/coach in the State of Ohio from 1949-1951. He and his wife then moved to Michigan where he taught American history at Adrian High School. He was an assistant varsity coach for football and basketball, and the head coach for baseball for Adrian High School. He also coached baseball for the American Legion Post #97 for several years. Mr. Gaver played minor league professional baseball for 2 ½ years and his love for the game and his players is something he carried with

him his entire life.

He was a member of the Elks Lodge, American Legion Post #97 for over 50 years, as well as the Disabled American Veterans and Michigan Association of Retired Teachers.

Funeral services for Mr. Gaver will be held on Thursday, September 8, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. at Wagley Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Oakwood Cemetery.

Friends may visit the family on Wednesday, September 7, from 4-8 p.m. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be directed to the American Legion Post #275 or the Adrian High School Baseball Team. You may also sign the register book or send condolences at www.WagleyFuneralHome.com

Born a Buckeye, Lived a Buckeye, Died a Buckeye – GO BUCKS!

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service
1501 W. Maumee St.
Adrian, MI

Tribute Wall



“ *Wagley Funeral Home and Cremation Service created a Tribute Video in memory of Richard P. Gaver*



Wagley Funeral Home - September 03, 2011 at 12:00 AM



“ *Richard P. Gaver*

January 28, 2023 at 12:24 PM



“ *Jill:*

I'm posting late but you know that I was thinking of you. I'm sorry I was out of the country and missed his homegoing but your dad was a great man! Passed on more wisdom than you will ever know.

You are my friend and if you need anything let me know.

Troy Henagan##imported-begin##Troy Henagan##imported-end##

September 28, 2011 at 07:42 PM



“ Pam, Your dad was such a wonderful man. My heartfelt sympathy to your family. I am so sorry that I was unable to attend the service or visitation however I want you to know that you are in my thoughts. Chuck and I graduated together and we all felt your loss upon his passing as well. Peace my friend.##imported-begin##Ann VanSchaick Wise##imported-end##

September 09, 2011 at 04:29 PM



“ My condolences to the family of Mr. Gaver. He was my History teacher at AHS and I thoroughly enjoyed his class! Although it has been many years since I attended I do remember him fondly.##imported-begin##Christine Collard Wagoner##imported-end##

September 09, 2011 at 03:20 PM



“ Pammy and Jill: I just now learned of your father's passing and my thoughts and prayers are with you. Wish I would have had him as a teacher, heard so many good things about his teaching abilities. You could always count on him having a red car and the house was usually decked out in Buckeye colors :)##imported-begin##John Castle##imported-end##

September 09, 2011 at 10:09 AM



“ Soverly sorry to hear of Mr. Gaver passing. He was my History teacher and wonderful person. Always enjoyed seeing him and having a short chat with him he always had a smile and a good story to tell! I will keep the family in my thoughts and prayers, your dad was a wonderful teacher and friend.##imported-begin##Pamela F;int Guistino##imported-end##

September 08, 2011 at 06:39 PM



“ To the family of Richard P. Gaver,

The members of Lenawee County Retired School express their sympathy to the family of Richard P. Gaver upon the death of their father & Grandfather. He has intellectually influenced many students throughout his teaching career.##imported-begin##Jane K. Waldo##imported-end##

September 08, 2011 at 02:13 PM



“ The best Teacher ever! And neighbor too. I'll miss you Mr. Gaver. RIP##imported-begin##Liz Mendez##imported-end##

September 08, 2011 at 12:10 PM



“ My condolences to the Gaver family. Mr. Gaver was my best teacher. Even though I was a less than perfect student, I learned in his class and had great respect for him.##imported-begin##John Gippert##imported-end##

September 08, 2011 at 12:26 AM



“ My paryers go out to the family, Mr. Gaver was a great teacher and a friend. He will be missed.##imported-begin##Bruce Campbell##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 11:51 PM



“ Mr. Gaver was a wonderful man and hero. I was one of Mr. Gaver student at Adrian High School "Class of 87". He made a lasting impression on me and I will never forget him. In the year 2000 I bought a house at 681 Lenawee Street. My backyard adjoined his. We use to talk and spend time together and a new friendship evolved. I remember when we had an ice storm and I cut up the trees that had fallen in his yard. I refused to be paid so he took my wife and me to Lyons Ohio for dinner at the Lyons Den. I would spend time talking with him. I always looked forward to our talks. I moved away 8 years ago to South Carolina and when I made it back from time to time I would stop by and knock on his door for a visit. He always had great advice and a story to share. It has been a couple of years since I have seen him. I have just recently returned from Iraq and will be back in Adrian at the end of September. I am sad that I will not get to see him one last time and share my stories of Iraq with him or get to say good bye. I will truly miss him! My sincer condolences to the family.

SGT Troy B Baughey

B Co. 151 ESB##imported-begin##Troy B Baughey##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 09:23 PM



“ Great teacher – Great coach! His quiet unassuming wisdom enriched all of us who were fortunate to be taught or coached by him.##imported-begin##Gordon Bauschka##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 06:15 PM



“ Dick Gaver was a class guy, coach, and teacher that instilled a quiet confidence, a mild manner, a generous spirit, a great laugh, and a super sense of humor. He became the head baseball coach of AHS in '65, my senior year, and I am pleased that we won handily the league championship that year. I have nothing but fond memories of him. I wish his family the best.##imported-begin##Pete Casteel##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 04:56 PM



“ Jill and family,
I know what you are going through and my heart and thoughts go out to you all.
Love,
Shelly##imported-begin##Shelly Zink-Duffy##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 03:48 PM



“ Very sorry for your loss. Your family is in my thoughts and prayers!
Love you Jill and family :)##imported-begin##Jaimelynn Lewis##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 11:32 AM



“ Pam and Jill, My deepest sympathies to you on the passing of your father. We were neighbors around the corner on Lenawee St. I graduated with your brother Chuck.

Our Dads both coached baseball, and my brother David was coached by your Dad. He was a great coach and is fondly remembered.

Again, my deepest condolences.

Val Gier##imported-begin##Vallery Gier Dietrich##imported-end##

September 07, 2011 at 08:22 AM



“ My heart goes out to you Pam and Jill.
My uncle Dick was a good man in every way. He will be missed.
Love, Ellen (Kathryn's oldest daughter)##imported-begin##Ellen
Ferguson Schenk##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 11:32 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to all of Dick's family2KG##imported-begin##Joan E. Frey##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 09:08 PM



“ One of my favorite teachers and coaches. He was a very good man!
Rest in peace##imported-begin##Art Barnhart##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 08:56 PM



“ Sorry to hear of the passing of Coach Gaver. He was one great man.##imported-begin##Douglas Wenn##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 07:45 PM



“ Jill,
Sorry I can't make it but I have your family and you in my thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Annie Perez##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 06:47 PM



“ Great Government and Drivers Education Teacher..My condolences..##imported-begin##Michael Ganun##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 06:46 PM



“ I was so sorry to read of the passing of Dick. My parents, Lucy & Floyd Smith were friends for years with Dick & Helen, and I enjoyed the fun at my parent's Devil's Lake cottage with Dick & Helen and "The Dirty Dozen." I will remember him fondly.##imported-begin##Judy Rose##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 06:18 PM



“ Pam, Jill & family -- We would like to express our deepest sympathy during this difficult time. May your father rest in peace with the LORD OUR SAVIOR. What a great role model we so desperately need today as a father, educator and a wonderful baseball coach. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
Brian & Connie Gentner##imported-begin##Brian & Connie Gentner##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 06:14 PM



“ Pam & Jill~ Thinking of you at this time.##imported-begin##Lorie McCarty##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 06:13 PM



“ To Pam, Jill and families,

*The neighbors on Riverside Ave will miss your father's friendly personality and his animated spirit! He would always stop to talk when we were outside. We all truly enjoyed his visits!!
He was one of life's precious treasures!
Your families are in our thoughts and prayers.*

The neighbors of Riverside Ave.##imported-begin##Sandy Setzler & neighbors of Riverside Ave##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 04:47 PM



“ Jill and Pam,

There are no words to say in regards to the loss that you feel right now. I will have you two in my thoughts and prayers.

Susan##imported-begin##Susan Seel Baughey##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 02:31 PM



“ I will miss you, Uncle Dick. Love, Susie##imported-begin##Susan Devencenzi##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 02:01 PM



“ Jill, Pam & family- So sad to hear of your Dads passing. He will be sorely missed around this town! Lots of memories of Mom and Dad and the "oddly" painted home on Riverside Ave. Our prayers are with you and yours as you walk through these difficult times.
With Love;
Jeff Lewin##imported-begin##Jeff & DeAnne Lewin##imported-end##

September 06, 2011 at 11:19 AM



“ The entire McNitt family wishes to send their deepest sympathy to Pam and Jill. Memories of that Buckeye flag waving in the wind on football Saturdays, coaching together, kids playing in the Gaver basement, along with being close neighbors are things we cherish.##imported-begin##Gary McNitt##imported-end##

September 05, 2011 at 07:41 AM



“ *The memories I have of growing up in the Gaver household are fun, loving and powerful. The stories are plentiful and special to me. They are the kind of memories that all people should have of their childhood. I feel blessed to have them and fortunate to have known such a great man.##imported-begin##Barb Rearick Goliver##imported-end##*

September 04, 2011 at 10:09 PM



“ *Pam and Jill- isn't life and now death bizarre? Everyone here is amazed at Dad's and Uncle Dick's story. We need to stay in touch and get together soon. I regret they didn't get to see each other again. Today I was in the backyard and a flood of memories washed over me and made me smile. Those were the days! Please know we love you and are thinking of you.....love you, sue##imported-begin##susan lenhart##imported-end##*

September 04, 2011 at 09:28 PM