



Gary Hegedus

September 1, 1945 - January 11, 2026

Gary Lee Hegedus, age 80, of Hazel Park, passed away on January 11, 2026. A proud veteran, devoted friend, and skilled craftsman, he leaves behind a legacy of service, independence, and camaraderie.

Gary was born on September 1, 1945 to Steve and Helen Hegedus in Windber, Pennsylvania. He was raised in Windber, and after graduating high school, enlisted in the United States Army and served as a medic during the Vietnam War.

Following his honorable discharge from the Army, Gary moved to Detroit in search of opportunity. He ultimately built a long and steady career as a welder with General Motors and American Axle, earning respect for his skill, reliability, and strong work ethic.

Gary lived life on his own terms. He was an avid motorcycle enthusiast, owning Harley-Davidsons and other bikes over the years, and he loved the open road. A natural problem-solver, he fixed most of his own cars and took pride in being a true do-it-yourselfer. Many also knew him as a talented pool player and a sharp card shark, especially at the poker table.

A loyal member of VFW Post 1669 in Royal Oak, Gary valued the fellowship of fellow veterans and the bonds formed through shared service. He will be

deeply missed by all who knew him.

Gary will be remembered as the beloved life partner of Gail Simpson. Loving father of Wendie Wood, Cherie Jeffrey, and Karen Hegedus; and stepfather of Angie Renee, and Wayne. Proud grandfather of Anthony, Erika, Victoria, Natalie, Emma, Skyler, Kailey; and great-grandfather of Karsyn, Kaleb, Peyton, and Waylon. Dear brother of Karen Browning and Gloria Stratton; and uncle to April Savarese.

Visitation for Gary will be held on Thursday, January 15, from 12:00 p.m. until time of service, 6:30 p.m., at Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Directors, 705 W. Eleven Mile Rd. (four blocks east of Woodward), Royal Oak.

Memorial contributions in memory of Gary can be directed to VFW Acorn Post 1669, 214 E 4th St, Royal Oak, MI 48067.

Please share a memory at www.SullivanFuneralDirectors.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 15. 12:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Funeral Service

JAN 15. 6:30 PM (ET)

Wm. Sullivan and Son Funeral Directors-Royal Oak
705 W. Eleven Mile Road
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Inurnment

JAN 20. 2:30 PM (ET)

Great Lakes National Cemetery
4200 Belford Road
Holly Township, MI 48442

Tribute Wall

AL

“ *Honky(Gary) was a true friend! We have shared many wonderful memories together! From working at GM, Tubing and Motorcycle events and so much more. We will miss you! Rest in peace our friend. Abe and Shelia Lawson*



Abe and Shelia Lawson - January 15 at 03:47 PM

MS

“ *Bruce and I were saddened to hear of Gary's passing and send our heartfelt sympathy to Gail, Wendie, Wayne and all the family. Gary was such a nice person and he will be missed. Bruce and Marion Schmidlin*

Marion Schmidlin - January 14 at 02:12 PM

CJ

“ *Great times at Asmus and Grenada..*



Carol Jeffrey - January 14 at 12:07 PM

JE

“ *Gary was the kind of guy you could count on. He was a fantastic neighbor, and friend. May he rest in peace . I will miss him greatly.*

Janice Ebersole - January 14 at 11:42 AM

JR

“ Jim Rielhs Romeo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Hegedus.

Jim Rielhs Romeo - January 14 at 10:59 AM

JR

“ Jim Rielhs Romeo purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Gary Hegedus.



Jim Rielhs Romeo - January 14 at 10:59 AM

LL

“ Lucille L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Hegedus.

Lucille L. - January 13 at 07:22 PM

JU

“ Justin purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gary Hegedus.



Justin - January 13 at 03:56 PM

DA

“ Dr James and Mindy Aronovitz purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Gary Hegedus.



Dr James and Mindy Aronovitz - January 13 at 03:30 PM