



Gary Lee Hewlett

August 27, 1953 - August 6, 2025

Gary Lee Hewlett, age 71, of Rolla, Missouri, passed away on August 6, 2025, in Columbia, Missouri, surrounded by the love of his family and friends.

Born on August 27, 1953, in St. Louis, Missouri, Gary built a life filled with hard work, humor, and heart. He worked for many years as an auto and industrial equipment mechanic—always known for his skill, problem-solving mind, and can-do spirit.

Gary was a man of many passions. An avid marksman and hunter, he enjoyed nothing more than being in the outdoors or riding his ATV across the countryside. He was known for his unforgettable sense of humor—whether telling a good (or “bad”) joke or simply being the life of the party. Gary was also a dedicated BBQ master and grill guru, proudly passing on his love of grilling to his children. Gary was an exceptional cook and made the best Beefy Noodle around.

He grew up a St. Louis Cardinals fan, often watching while classic rock blared in the background. He loved America, John Wayne movies, and special trips to the mountains of Colorado. A true patriot at heart, Gary loved his country, his family, and a good bucket of Kentucky Fried Chicken, which he enjoyed until the very end.

Gary is survived by his loving wife of 50 years, Connie Hewlett, and his children: Gregory Hewlett, Michael Hewlett and wife Kate, Jennifer Yamnitz and husband Brad, and bonus son Tim Nichols. He leaves behind his cherished grandchildren: Doug (Ashley) Arthur, Alex Arthur, Nick (Kenzy)

Hewlett, Joe Hewlett, Holly Wade, Elizabeth Yamnitz, Abby Yamnitz, and Nathan Yamnitz; along with five great-grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews, and extended family.

He is also survived by his sisters Kimberly Hewlett, Karen Barton (Scott), and Kelly Lamar, and brothers-in-law Ken Wagner, Jim Wagner, and Ron Wagner. Gary was preceded in death by his beloved mother, Shirley Hughes.

In his final weeks, Gary was surrounded by family—his wife, children, grandchildren, sisters, nieces, in-laws, neighbors, and dear friends. His spirit remained strong and full of humor. Known affectionately as “Uncle Butter Bread” by his very special nieces Sarah and Emily, Gary held on with incredible willpower and a healthy sense of mischief. As the family lovingly joked, Gary “was a turkey meat to the very end,” hanging on longer than anyone thought possible and thoroughly enjoying the copious amounts of morphine while he could. If he had a final word on it all, he'd probably say it was ... superb.

A visitation will be held on Monday, August 11, 2025, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., with the funeral service to follow at 7:00 p.m. Friends and family are invited to gather, share memories, and celebrate a life truly well lived.

In Lieu of flowers a donation can be made in Gary Hewlett's honor to: Gary Sinise Foundation

Gary will be deeply missed by all who had the joy of knowing him, but his stories, laughter, and legacy will live on in the hearts of many. He was truly one of a kind!

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 11. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Rolla
1651 E. Hwy 72
Rolla, MO 65401
(573) 458-2262
jgrolla@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Funeral Service

AUG 11. 7:00 PM (CT)

James & Gahr Mortuary - Rolla
1651 E. Hwy 72
Rolla, MO 65401
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jgrolla@hotmail.com
<https://www.jamesgahrmortuary.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gary Lee Hewlett.

August 10, 2025 at 07:15 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gary Lee Hewlett.



August 10, 2025 at 07:15 PM



“ Andrew and Jes Tompkins purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Gary Lee Hewlett.



Andrew and Jes Tompkins - August 10, 2025 at 01:38 PM



“ The Andersons, Bells, and Whiteners planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Lee Hewlett.

The Andersons, Bells, and Whiteners - August 10, 2025 at 12:20 AM

TW

“ *The Andersons, Bells, and Whiteners purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gary Lee Hewlett.*



The Andersons, Bells, and Whiteners - August 10, 2025 at 12:20 AM

KF

“ *Kenneth Kerley and family purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Gary Lee Hewlett.*



Kenneth Kerley and family - August 09, 2025 at 05:41 PM

TG

“ *Sending my condolences to all of you during this difficult time. Gary was a great guy all around! I am truly sorry for your loss. Heaven gained one amazing man! Tif Guerrette*

Tiffany Guerrette - August 08, 2025 at 09:13 PM

LK

“ *Linda & Kelly purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Gary Lee Hewlett.*



Linda & Kelly - August 08, 2025 at 01:12 PM

KB

“ Karen B. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gary Lee Hewlett.



Karen B. - August 08, 2025 at 09:25 AM

PA

“ Connie, Greg, Mike and Jennifer so sorry for your loss. I remember Gary and Connie when we lived in Hanley Hills across the street from the Hewletts. You all are in my thoughts and prayers.

Pam - August 07, 2025 at 06:32 PM