



Richard E. Gerst

February 12, 1941 - February 11, 2019

Richard Edwin Gerst, 77, was called home to God on Monday, February 11 after a 51 -day battle following a severe stroke. He was one day shy of his 78th birthday. Richard was the loving son of the late Richard L. and Frances E. Gerst. He was the oldest of five brothers and a sister and grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He earned a full scholarship to Clemson University for football and graduated with a degree in Mathematics. He then enlisted in the U.S. Navy and proudly served aboard the U.S.S. Coconino County as a communications officer during the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged and went on to earn his Master's Degree from Lowell State University in Education. He then worked as a math and computer science teacher at Lawrence High School for 39 years. He was much loved and respected and enjoyed making a difference daily in the lives of his students.

The center of his life was always his loving family. He was sure to attend every baseball and basketball game and coached his children's baseball and basketball teams for many years, often while working two jobs to support his family. He enjoyed backyard cookouts in his well-kept yard, watching football and the Red Sox on TV with his sons, and going to the beach with his grandkids, especially to get a Dairy Queen treat afterwards.

He will be sadly missed by his loving wife of 49 years, Mary R. Gerst, as well as his son Richard P. Gerst and his wife Liliana and their two daughters Sophia and Daniella of Bristol, CT, daughter Leah M. Pinette and her husband Vaughn and their baby daughter-to-be Anna Leah of Methuen, MA, son Kevin J. Gerst and his wife Allison and their three children Drew, Emma, and Alexandra of Windham, NH, and daughter Mary T. Johnston and her husband Nicholas and their children Sara, Lucy, Casey, and Benjamin of Methuen, MA.

Visitation for Richard will be held on Thursday, February 14, from 4-8 pm at the Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home 233 Lawrence St, Methuen. Friends and family are cordially invited to attend. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, February 15th at 9 am at St. Monica's Church, 212 Lawrence St, Methuen. Interment to follow at St.

Augustine's Cemetery, Andover. To leave an online condolence please visit www.pollardfuneralhome.com. The Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home is proud to serve the Gerst family.

Cemetery

St Augustine's Cemetery

Andover, MA,

Events

FEB **Calling Hours** 04:00PM - 08:00PM

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Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home

233 Lawrence Street, Methuen, MA, US, 01844

FEB **Mass** 09:00AM

15

St. Monica's Church

212 Lawrence St., Methuen, MA, US, 01844

Comments



“ It’s dark out there tonight, Dad , but your love is lighting the way. Gonna miss our “walk and talks”. Heaven is a little brighter tonight with you there.



Mary Johnston - February 14, 2019 at 12:39 AM



“ God bless you Mr.Gerst and your family
I was one of your students, class of 77'.
You were a fine teacher and a gentleman.
God speed.



Anthony - February 13, 2019 at 07:19 PM



“ Prayers to you & your family, Cousin Mary, at this difficult time. Dick was such a nice guy and wonderful family man. He will be missed.

Cyndi - February 13, 2019 at 09:31 AM