



David Jr. Gilliam

February 3, 1943 - February 24, 2023

David Jr. Gilliam, 80, of Avoca, Michigan, peacefully passed away on February 24, 2023, surrounded by his loving family after a difficult journey with health issues.

David was born on February 3, 1943, in Pikeville, Ky. David married the love of his life, Virgie McCoy, on February 3, 1962. Together, they relocated to Michigan, where they raised their three beautiful children. David retired in 1999 after 35 years with Ford Motor Co. After his retirement, David started many hobbies, including tinkering in his shop, going to garage sales, and enjoying the flea markets where he created many long-lasting friendships. He also enjoyed many years as a trustee of UAW Local 228 as a loyal union member. Everyone who knew David knows he would help in any way he could. He was a loyal, loving and kind person who cherished all his friends and family. David and Virgie are very blessed to have special friends, Richard and Helen Cummings, with whom they shared many memories, including trips and many intense game nights of Euchre and Pepper.

David is survived by his loving wife, Virgie McCoy Gilliam, which they recently celebrated 61 years of marriage, and his three children: Patricia Ann Hase (Jon), Sandra Kaye (Ron) Kristrick, and David Keith (Kate) Gilliam. Five grandchildren: Tara (Kyle) Wright, Stephanie (Adam) Hein, Travis Hase (Diane), Amanda (Dale) VanThomme, and Dakota Alexander; and three great-

grandchildren: Carter Belanger, Abriana Belanger, and Baileigh Wright.

We take comfort in knowing that David is now at peace and is no longer in pain. David will be dearly missed by his family and friends. We will miss his stories, whether they involved Ford trucks, or the adventures at the flea market, and especially his quick humor, which always put a smile on our faces.

A Celebration of David's life will be held at a later date. Cremation arrangements in care of, Jowett Funeral Home, 1634 Lapeer Avenue, Port Huron.

In lieu of flowers, please consider monetary donations to Disabled American Veterans, DAV - I Help Veterans, as he was a major supporter of our Veterans.

To view the obituary and share memories, please visit www.jowettfuneraldirectors.com

Tribute Wall

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“ I will always remember Uncle David as a kind man that had an affinity for cars, trucks and southwestern jewelry. I will never forget the thrilling ride on the streets of Detroit he gave a then 13 year old boy on his motorcycle. I will also never forget the 454 Chevelle he bought while still working for Ford Motor Company. It was the fastest car I had ever been in. I remember him telling me he could never drive it to work because Ford employees might damage it. Rest In Peace Uncle David. I regret not spending more time with you.

Marc (Dale) Wright - February 27, 2023 at 11:10 PM