



## Dr. Gerald R. Magneson

May 3, 1953 - November 11, 2016

### Obituary of Gerald R. Magneson

Gerald R. Magneson, Ph.D., of St. Clair, Michigan, went home to the Lord on Nov. 11, 2016, after a long illness. He was 63.

Jerry was born in Phoenix, Arizona, on May 3, 1953, to the late Elmer and Nina Magneson. Jerry was married to Kristin Baarson on July 26, 1975, in Port Huron, Michigan.

A 1971 graduate of Port Huron High School, Jerry received his B.S. in biological science from Kalamazoo College in 1975 and his M.A. and Ph.D. in biochemistry from Purdue University in 1986. He completed his postdoctoral at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas, in 1987.

Jerry was an analytical biochemist and formulator, with more than 25 years of experience in research and development in the biotechnology/pharmaceutical industry. During his career, he worked at Instrumentation Laboratory in Lexington, Massachusetts; Genzyme Corporation in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Cardinal Health/Catalent in San Diego, California; GTC Biotherapeutics, Inc. in Framingham, Massachusetts; and Neoprobe Corporation/Navidea Biopharmaceuticals in Dublin, Ohio.

Jerry was the primary investigator and author of five U.S. patents. His last patent was awarded for the formulation of the radio-labeled, lyophilized nuclear imaging agent Lymphoseek, which is used in the surgical process to detect breast cancer, melanoma, head and neck cancer, and other applications. It was approved for manufacture and distribution by the U.S.

Food and Drug Administration and the European Union. Jerry finished his work on Lymphoseek after receiving his diagnosis of fronto-temporal dementia and was thankful that the Lord gave him enough time to do so.

Jerry was a member of the P.H.H.S. tennis and cross country teams and loved to play all racquet sports. He was also an avid spectator; loved the Boston Patriots, the Red Sox, and the Tigers; and loved to laugh.

In 1971, Jerry and his brother Scott won the 18 and under doubles title in the Robinson Memorial Tennis Tournament, and 25 years later, his nephews, Darin and Kyle Magneson, won the same title. Jerry was a member of Boy Scout Troop 172, an Eagle Scout, and a member of the Order of the Arrow. Jerry is survived by his wife, Kristin Magneson, of St. Clair, Michigan; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Lee and Kay Magneson and Scott and Sandy Magneson; his sister and brother-in-law, Wendy and Louis Johannes; and several nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Mary's Catholic Church, 415 N. Sixth Street, St. Clair, MI 48079, or the local Humane Society. Jerry and his wife, Kris, were very involved in adopting and rescuing American cocker spaniels over the years.

A Funeral Mass for Jerry will be held at 11:00 a.m. Friday, Nov. 18, 2016, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in St. Clair, preceded by an hour of visitation starting at 10:00 a.m. Interment in the columbarium at St. Mary's cemetery will follow the Mass.

Arrangements in care of, Jowett Funeral Home, Port Huron.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 18. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
St. Clair, MI 48079

## Funeral Mass

NOV 18. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Mary's Catholic Church  
St. Clair, MI 48079

# Tribute Wall

TK

“ Sad to hear of Jerry's passing and our thoughts are with the family. Jerry was my next door neighbor on 21st street and school buddy for years. From middle school thru college where we both went to Kalamazoo. He met Kristin and I remember a casino night at K college. He was in my wedding as he was a big part of my life. Recall right after graduating high school in 71, we took a road trip driving my mom's 65 Ford Mustang from Port Huron to Maine and down the coast to Florida to witness the lift off of Apollo 15. Two young men with no worries enjoying what life gives us building a camaraderie that I will never forget. A very good friend - never to be forgotten.

Sincerely,

Tom and Beth Kreutziger

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Tom Kreutziger - November 19, 2016 at 11:03 AM

PD

“ God brought Gerald Ross Magneson into my life June 2016. What a great day that was. I walked into his room and he looked at me with those beautiful blue eyes and I instantly felt his love. I was there to help Jerry out but he actually helped me out. I'd help him with getting ready for the day. Sometimes he wouldn't cooperate and I'd have to get after him. You see, Jerry never spoke to me...I never heard his voice. I know he'd be laughing inside and at me trying to shave him for the first time or when I couldn't get his shoe on and he'd help pull me up because I couldn't kneel for so long. We were a team! We worked together. He'd brighten my day the minute I saw his blue eyes. Nothing else mattered...only Jerry. Every day we would laugh and do our special handshake. He always remembered. We made the most out of every morning. We would talk sports and I'd tell him how my kids baseball, basketball and football games went. The best would be when Jerry laughed...made my day. Jerry, I know you're in a much better place and I have to keep remembering that, but I'm so, so sad that I didn't have more time with you. Twice while visiting you, workers asked me if I was your daughter...I felt honored. Gerald Ross Magneson( I'd say his full name when I needed him to help me out plus I love his name) you will forever be in my heart. I thank God for bringing you into my life. I love you! Xo 🥰💙

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**Patrice Dombrowski** - November 17, 2016 at 08:07 AM

RI

“ Sorry to learn of this. Gerry and went to the same schools, and he was a year ahead of me and a year young than my brother.

*Praying for the Magnson family.*

*Fr Rick Simpson  
Islip, NY*

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**Rick** - November 16, 2016 at 06:14 PM