



# Ross "Gene" Paul Jr.

FEB 21, 1934 - AUG 2, 2015



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Hamlin & Hilbish  
Funeral Directors

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## **Ross "Gene" Paul Jr.**

FEB 21, 1934 - AUG 2, 2015

**R**oss Eugene "Gene" Paul Jr. 81, of Grand Island passed away on August 2, 2015. He was born in Tavares and lived in this area all his life. He was Protestant. Gene was retired from the auto sales industry and was the founder and owner of Gene Paul Motors of Mount Dora, prior to that he worked with A.G. Polk Buick and Joe Creamons Chevrolet of Eustis and Cecil Clark Chevrolet of Leesburg. He had been a very active coach and umpire in the Eustis Little League. He is survived by his wife Judy, they were married for 55 years. Also surviving are his children; Jill (Virgil) Tetsworth of Woodstock, Georgia and Ross (Sherril) Paul of Sorrento, sister Gerry (Paul) McCormic of Wildwood, and his grandchildren; Weston Paul, Rachel Paul (Chuck) Stanley, Trenton (fiancée Brianna Curley) Paul, Brandon (Bonnie) Carey, Nicholas (Colleen) Tetsworth, Kendall Tetsworth and Cassady (John) Turregano and four great grandchildren, John, Triston, Caleb and Evan. Memorial services will be held in the Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel at 4 PM Thursday, August 6th with Fred Lundy, Minister officiating. Please send memorials to: Summer Programs at Camp Boggy Creek, 30500 Brantley Branch Road, Eustis FL. 32736.



## Events


**Ross "Gene" Paul Jr.**

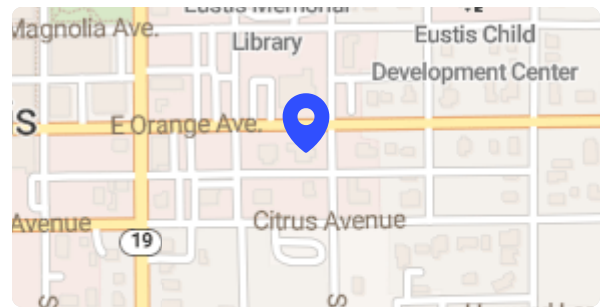
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### Memorial Service

 **Thursday**, August 6, 2015

 4:00 PM ET

 **Hamlin & Hilbish Chapel**  
326 E. Orange Avenue, Eustis FL 32726





## Tribute Wall

**Ross "Gene" Paul Jr.**

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GM

**Gerry (Paul) McCormic** posted:

To my only Sister Judy: Today is a day of remembering for us all. There are no words to express the loss we all share, but we are a strong family and can climb high mountains. Love overcomes sorrow, and we have lots of love. Growing up with "Gene Paul" and always being known as "Gene Paul's" sister was a trip. Sometimes I would be mistaken for Gene and he for Gerry since we both had boy names. We were always blessed by our childhood friends and their families. I think we spent more time at the Banning home than we did our own. We had hard working parents who supported us in everything, from school plays, football, basketball, baseball, tennis, track, school projects....and on and on...even though they worked long hard hours at the LRPA they managed to NEVER miss a basketball or football game. We always had a dog of one kind or another, but there was one very special one. He was an old white one named "Teddy" that was our best friend when Mama would get the switch after us for a number of most undeserving incidents. The front door steps were the best place to sit and hug Teddy and tell him of the injustices we faced. Of course when we crawled up under the side of the house and Aunt Susan caught us with matches just as we lit the fire, we were really taken to task. Then there was the old Mulberry tree in the back yard that yielded a delicious berry from which Mama created a juicy berry pie. However, shoes were not a necessity of life for me, and when I walked bare footed over the fallen berries it was not a pretty sight. Then there was the large chinaberry tree that stood majestically about three feet off the back corner of our house. It proved to be a refuge for us since we were the only ones brave enough to tackle it. It was very easy to climb to the top and see the top of the Old Courthouse across town thus out of reach for those who might wonder what we were going to do next. However, the year we had a bad hurricane the wind blew and blew, and then all of a sudden we heard a slight increase in the wind and looked out the window just in time to see it gently and swiftly fall to its demise. Of course I would be remiss if I didn't convey one last event that could have prevented me from being here to write this little dissertation. Gene and I were just little fellers staying with our Aunt Jenny while Mama and Daddy went grocery shopping on Main Street in Tavares. A family friend came to see our parents and Aunt Jenny let us go with him to see if they were still at the grocery. He took us to town to meet them, and left us in the his car while he went in to see if they were still in the store. Meantime, Chief Messer, the local policeman, was approaching us on his official bicycle. Gene had just discovered a toy pistol under the front seat of the car and was pointing it at the Chief to shoot him. Then his little mind changed directions and he pointed it at the window in the old Grocery store and told me to duck....luckily I did and the bullet grazed my shoulder...that was when we realized it was not a toy. These were just a few of the things that make for memories. However, the best memory of my brother is that he was a loving, caring man who really didn't want anyone to know it. He liked to play the hard parts, but inside he was very kind and generous, especially anyone who needed help in any way. He and my husband, Paul, were the very best of friends all through school and we both will miss him terribly. To anyone who reads this I would like to say that if you have a brother like mine, cherish it and don't forget to tell him you love him.

August 7 at 4:34 AM



# Tribute Wall

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**Doris Godfrey** posted:

Judy and Family, Our deepest sympathy to you and all the family. We have fond memories of Gene and will certainly miss him. So sorry we are out of town and could not be there. Love to you all. Joe and Doris Godfrey

August 6 at 1:23 PM



**Valerie Morgan Allen** posted:

Judy and family, My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this time. Am sorry I can't be there this evening, but thoughts will be with you. Love and God Bless, Valerie Morgan Allen

August 6 at 9:05 AM



**Anonymous** sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the Paul Jr. family.

August 5 at 12:44 PM



**Anonymous** sent a sympathy card to the Paul Jr. family.

August 5 at 9:11 AM



**Mark And Laurie Tetsworth** posted:

Judy, Our deepest condolences. We were very saddened to hear of Gene's passing. He was a very warm hearted man. We loved to hear him tell his stories. He'll be missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to you and the rest of the family. Mark and Laurie Tetsworth

August 5 at 4:37 AM



**Tena Carpenter** posted:

Dear Miss Judy, my heart and prayers are with you and your family. I met Gene 26 years ago at that store and he was one of a kind! I have some many fun memories of him. You guys have always meant a lot to me. He will be missed!

August 4 at 5:07 AM



## Tribute Wall

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ML

**Mary Lory** posted:

Dear Judy & family, I was so sad to hear that Gene had died. It was so strange...I dreamt of you this very week and Gene had died. I thought of your birthday coming up and said to myself, "I need to call Judy and get together with her." I guess what I'm saying is, even though we haven't gotten together for quite a while, you and Gene have still been on my mind. You two hosted many wonderful parties, blood bank affairs and FSU Seminole game-watching. Gene was quite a sports fan. He had a car horn that played the Florida State fight song. I liked it so much that I got John one. Much to his wife's dismay, John said it was the best gift, ever. I remember Gene frying a turkey. It was so good. I have such good memories of times spent with you and Gene. Gene loved his family. He was always telling stories about his kids and grandkids. He was so proud of all of you. I am so sorry for your loss. Sincerely, Mary Lory

August 4 at 5:04 AM

GC

**Garnet Cassell** August 14 at 5:23 AM

Judy, I was surprised when I was at the Dr. Office picked up the Umatilla paper, and read about Gene Passing. I am so sorry, I really enjoyed his stories he always had to tell. He was a good caring person, You and your family are in my prayers.

LA

**Lorna Ahrens** August 8 at 12:36 AM

Dear Judy, Jill and Ross, I was so sad to hear of Gene's passing from AI who called me after Gene's service. My condolences to you and all of your families. Thinking of Gene brought back a flood of memories: his finding a used car for our second car! and taking me to the car auction to buy me a car and then selling it months later when it turned out to have something terminal. That was an experience! and an example of his kindness; of you all taking us under your wings when we first came to Eustis, having us for meals and holidays, Jill and Ross holding baby Philip (who is now 41); Gene taking teenage Phil and DeeDee for a ride on your lake in the boat. Gene was so generous and caring under that toughness. It was a great privilege to have had Gene in our lives. Know that you are in my thoughts. Sending love to all of you, Lorna (Eckian) Ahrens. Judy, I would love to see you again. DeeDee, her husband and nearly 3 year old Matthew have just moved back to Winter Park near us. I will be in contact.

KT

**Kevin Tetsworth** August 6 at 1:12 AM

Sorry to hear - a great guy, he will be missed

HB

**Harold & Diane Beatty** August 5 at 6:32 PM

Dear Judy, We were very sad to hear of Gene's passing. You and Gene were great neighbors and we missed having the two of you around. Gene was very kind and caring and went out of his way to help the people he met. From the time we moved into Royal Harbor he made us feel welcome and we could not ask for better neighbors. We will keep you and your family in our prayers. With sincere sadness, Harold & Diane Beatty



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ML

LW

**Linda (Smith) Witt** August 5 at 2:22 PM

Judy, Jill and Ross and families, I was so shocked and saddened to hear of Gene's passing. I was not aware that he had been so sick. I don't know what to say, except that you all are in my thoughts and prayers. I pray that God will comfort you and give you peace. I pray that in the coming days He will be your constant companion and help you all to make the adjustment to life without Gene, your life long companion and friend, your Dad and Granddad. I remember all the good times we had on Jackson Street and later when we all moved 'to the woods'. We watched our kids grow up together. Gene was a hard worker, a salesman extraordinaire, a lover of sports of all venues, a great story teller, and jokes...He and Al both loved to make people laugh. I will make every effort to attend the service Thursday afternoon. I don't drive much any more due to poor vision, but hopefully will be able to find a way. If I don't make it, know that you are in my prayers. Julie and Bob send the condolences too. They are in North Carolina now where Bob is working. He plans to retire again the end of this year. I'll see you around hopefully soon and we can catch up. Love and Prayers to you and your family. Linda (Smith) Witt

CB

**Cindy Brooks** August 5 at 7:57 AM

Dear Judy and Family So very sorry to hear of Gene's passing over. He will be missed by all who loved him. He was so full of entertaining stories of life and his family. My mom said when he was a baby she would take him on some of her dates as Gene's mom Peggy was working. Gene of course would not remember as he was a baby, but mom mentioned it often. I'm sure there are lot's more interesting stories family members could tell. I'll see you Thursday, till then my prayers are with you all. Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted. One of Gene's cousins, Cindy



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Ross by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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