



## Rev. Mr. Robert "Gene" E. Staker

June 27, 1936 - March 4, 2017

Reverend Mr. Robert "Gene" E. Staker, 80 of Zanesville, died 7:36 AM, Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Genesis Morrison House Hospice. He was born Saturday, June 27, 1936 in Zanesville, the son of Robert F. Staker and Mary Virginia (Fulmer) Staker.

Gene worked as Shipping Manager with the Ohio Ferro Alloy Plant in Philo, until transferring to Montgomery, Alabama, where he worked for Simetco (Ohio Ferro Alloy) until his retirement in 1998, with over 40 years of service. Upon retirement Gene returned to the Staker Family Farm in Zanesville.

Deacon Gene was a dedicated and faithful member of St. Nicholas Catholic Church. In 1983 he was ordained to the Permanent Diaconate by Bishop James Griffin at St. Joseph Cathedral in Columbus, and served as Deacon with St. Nicholas until his transfer to Alabama in 1985. While in Alabama, Gene served as Permanent Deacon with Our Lady Queen of Mercy Catholic Church in Montgomery. Upon his return to Zanesville in 1998, he once again served St. Nicholas as Deacon and sacristan until 2016.

Gene enjoyed farming the family farm, spending time with his family, dedicating his time to the work of the Lord and his Church. Gene was a loving and caring husband, father and grandfather.

Gene is survived by his wife, Mary Lou (Wolfe) Staker, whom he married June 29, 1957; two sons: Douglas (Kristine) Staker & Kerby (Melissa) Staker both of Zanesville; one daughter: Kama (Richard) Botelho of Pickerington; nine grandchildren: Joshua (Mary Beth) Swingle, Christin (William) Lavelle, Maryellen (Bart) Sims, Ryan Staker, Caitlin Staker, Tierney (Alex) Ford, Braydon Staker, Ashley Botelho & Haley Russell; nine great grandchildren: Raegan Sherfey, Sydney Lavelle, Scarlett Sims, Krosby Sims, Cheyenne Swingle, Christian Lemon, Harland Botelho, Kane Russell & Blade Russell; two brothers: John Staker of Canal Winchester & Jim (Teresa) Staker of Duncan Falls; one nephew: James (Heidi) Staker; two nieces: Trina Dunkle and Ashlee (Jeffrey) Schmidt; four great nieces and four great nephews.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents.

Friends may call from 2:00 to 4:00 and 6:00 to 8:00 PM, Thursday, March 9, 2017, at the Hillis, Combs & Nestor Funeral Home, 935 Forest Avenue, Zanesville, where a Christian Vigil will be held at 7:45 PM. Reverend Deacon Staker will Lie In State from 9:00 to 11:00 AM, Friday, March 10, 2017, at Saint Nicholas Catholic Church, 935 Main Street, Zanesville where a Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00 AM with Fr. Martin J. Ralko as Celebrant. Deacon Staker will be laid to rest in Deacons Circle in Mount Olive Cemetery. Memorial contributions may be made to St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 955 East Main Street, Zanesville, Ohio, 43701 in Gene's memory.

# Cemetery Details

## Mt. Olive Cemetery

2057 East Pike  
ZANESVILLE, OH 43701

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 9. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Visitation

MAR 9. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Prayer Vigil

MAR 9. 7:45 PM (ET)

Hillis Combs Funeral Home  
935 Forest Avenue  
Zanesville, OH 43701  
(740) 452-5494  
directors@hilliscombsnestor.com  
<https://www.hilliscombsnestor.com>

## Lie In State

MAR 10. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Nicholas Catholic Church  
955 East Main Street  
Zanesville, OH 43701

## Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Saint Nicholas Catholic Church  
955 East Main Street  
Zanesville, OH 43701

# Tribute Wall



“ *Rev. Mr. Robert "Gene" E. Staker*

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *God Bless Mary Lou, Doug, Kama, and Kirby. I am so sorry I was not able to join in with the celebration of my God Father's life with you. Hugs and Love. Denise*

**Denise Granlun** - March 28, 2017 at 08:21 AM



“ *just wanted you to know how much you are in my thoughts and prayers. Hang in there, Mary Lou, we love you. Terri Kenney*

**terri kenney** - March 09, 2017 at 03:29 PM



“ *So sorry for your loss! Gene & his family has been a neighbors of ours since the sixties. If there is anything we can do please contact us. Our prayers & thoughts our with you & your family.*

*Carolyn Cable & Family*

**Jane Barbour** - March 09, 2017 at 01:23 PM



“ *I extend my deepest condolences to you Kerby, Tierney, and family. I pray God's peace that passes all understanding will comfort you and keep you through this trying time. Lean on God and His strength because when we are weak, He is strong.*

**Audra Ladd** - March 08, 2017 at 11:19 PM

LI

“ *My deepest sympathy, may memories of Gene and love of family give you strength during this difficult time.*

*Linda and Joseph Colella*

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**Linda** - March 08, 2017 at 08:38 AM

CP

“ *Thinking of you and your family. My prayers are with you.*

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**Carol Pollman** - March 08, 2017 at 06:02 AM

VK

“ *Kerby and family, My sincere and deepest sympathy for the loss of your father. May God provide peace and comfort during this difficult time.*



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**Valli Kirkbride** - March 07, 2017 at 07:55 PM

MO

“ *Mary Lou,  
I don't know where I would be without Deacon and yours kindness and guidance. He always had a way of putting a smile on everyone's face and making the best of every situation. All my love to you and prayers for you*  
*Monica*

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**monica** - March 06, 2017 at 11:52 PM

SH

*Mary Lou,  
You and Mike mean the world to us. We will cherish our time and  
meaning with Gene.  
God Bless  
Sue Holdsworth*

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**Sue Holdsworth** - March 07, 2017 at 02:36 PM

M(

“ *Gene Staker is remembered as a dedicated spouse, father and  
extended family member. His spirit provided a light giving direction  
to many people. I am so sorry for your loss.*

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**Marsha Roll Koopman. (cousin)** - March 06, 2017 at 10:31 PM

SR

“ *Mary Lou, Kerby, Tierney and family, Jeff and I are so sorry for your  
loss. I remember you coming to Dad's home before he died and  
was so thankful, it meant so much. Keeping you in my prayers.*

*Love, Sharon August Rodocker*

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**sharon Rodocker** - March 06, 2017 at 09:28 PM

 Bill  
Lavelle

“ *I am a better man today due to my time spent with Grandpa Gene, a  
true inspiration to anyone lucky enough to have known him. Long  
may you run Grandpa Gene, long may you run.*

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**Bill Lavelle** - March 06, 2017 at 08:20 PM

JM

“ *Mary Lou and Family, It has been an honor to know Decon Gene. You are in our prayers at this very difficult time. Jon and Sherry Murphy*



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**Jon and Sherry Murphy** - March 06, 2017 at 07:43 PM

LS

“ *Sincere sympathies to Doug, Kris and Ryan and the entire Staker family. Our prayers are with each of you and especially your mother and her illness. God bless each of you at this very difficult time.*  
*Love,*  
*Aunt Lynda and Uncle Jim*

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**Lynda & Jim Sharrer** - March 06, 2017 at 05:36 PM