



Gary Hesse

November 30, 1948 - November 5, 2024

***Services will be live-streamed on the church's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stjohncf/>

Gary Lee Hesse, 75, died on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at his home in Cedar Falls after a brief illness.

He was born on November 30, 1948, in Decorah, IA, to Roger and LaVonne (Geving) Hesse. He attended a one-room country school through eighth grade and graduated in 1967 from Waukon High School. He married Mary Ann Schanz, the love of his life, on May 10, 1968, and they were blessed with 56 years of togetherness and three wonderful children.

He enlisted in the Army and served in Vietnam as a Military Intelligence Advisor, where he was awarded the Bronze Star for his service. He graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a BA degree in 1973 and a MA degree in 1975. Although Gary was a certified teacher, he served as a proud and committed employee of the City of Cedar Falls for 35 years, retiring in December 2010 as City Clerk. He was a long-term member of the United Church of Christ and recently was looking forward to participation as a member of St. John.

Gary is survived by his mother, LaVonne of Waukon; wife, Mary Ann of Cedar

Falls; children, Shawn (James) Bobst of Cedar Falls, Heather (Dan Potts) Locus of Chicago, IL, and Jason (Rachelle) Hesse of Jesup; grandchildren, Jay (Alex) Gogola and Jaime Bobst, Tyce and Teagan Locus, Alexis and Brock Hesse, and Cade, Gavin, Tyler and Ava Nolan; great-grandson, Brady Gogola; siblings, Randy (Lori) Hesse, Wendy Bucheit, and Perry (Marcia) Hesse, all of Waukon, and Holly Hesse of Springfield, MO; nieces and nephews; and his sister-in-law, Beverly Stokes of Ottumwa.

He was preceded in death by his father, Roger; several aunts and uncles; father- and mother-in law, Charles and Virginia Schanz; brother-in-law, Melvin Stokes; nephew, Scott Stokes; and Scooter, his constant pet companion of 14 years.

Funeral services will be 11:00 a.m. Friday, November 8, 2024, at St. John Lutheran Church in Cedar Falls with visitation one hour prior. Interment with military honors at Fairview Cemetery in Cedar Falls.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be given to St. John Lutheran Church, Northeast Iowa Food Bank, or a charity of choice.

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

12th and Division Streets
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 273-8628

Previous Events

Visitation

NOV 8. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John American Lutheran Church
715 College
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 268-0165
<http://stjohncf.org>

Funeral Service

NOV 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. John American Lutheran Church
715 College
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
(319) 268-0165
<http://stjohncf.org>

Tribute Wall

JD

“ *Mary Ann, The International Institute of Municipal Clerks was honored to have Gary's membership for thirty-four years. He was a true gentleman and very professional in his work. His heart was kind and our world was better because of him. God Bless Your Family in their sorrow!* ”

Janis Daudt - December 09, 2024 at 11:12 AM

ML

“ *Mark and Amanda Locus purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Gary Hesse.* ”



Mark and Amanda Locus - November 08, 2024 at 08:14 AM

JH

“ *Dear Mary Ann, Jason, and all your family, My interactions with Gary were always greatly appreciated, as he quickly would resolve my questions or concerns. What remarkable contributions he made to our city. In deep sympathy to you all, Judy* ”

Judith Harrington - November 07, 2024 at 06:56 PM

RR

“ *Gary was a kind, considerate city mainstay. Always a quiet little smile and never a bad word about anything. He will be dearly missed.* ”

Richard Robert - November 07, 2024 at 03:47 PM

RP

“ *Rebecca and John Pobloske purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Gary Hesse.*



Rebecca and John Pobloske - November 07, 2024 at 01:32 PM

DH

“ *Mary Ann and family,
Jerry & I send our sympathy to all of you. It's been many years since we bowled together but those memories never fade!!! Hugs!*

Diane & Jerry Headington - November 07, 2024 at 11:42 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary Hesse.*



November 07, 2024 at 08:32 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gary Hesse.*

November 07, 2024 at 06:48 AM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gary Hesse.*



November 07, 2024 at 06:48 AM



“ *The van den Bogert family (Itasca) planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Hesse.*

The van den Bogert family (Itasca) - November 06, 2024 at 05:27 PM



“ *The van den Bogert family (Itasca) purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gary Hesse.*



The van den Bogert family (Itasca) - November 06, 2024 at 05:27 PM



“ *Deeply sorry to the Hesse families. So heartbreaking.*

Nancy EINCK - November 06, 2024 at 10:03 AM



“ *I'm so sad to hear this news. I have many fond memories of Gary in all our years together at the City. Gary was an all around great guy! We will miss him. Our sincere condolences Mary Ann and family.*

Cindi Hendrickson - November 06, 2024 at 09:54 AM

TH

“ Gary was a very dedicated City Clerk for Cedar Falls. He helped me many times during my years as a city council rep. Thank you Gary for your service to our country in the Army and your years of service to our citizens To Gary's family: Gary will be at Peace, when he knows his family is at Peace.
Tom Hagarty Cedar Falls

Tom Hagarty - November 05, 2024 at 09:37 PM

DM

“ Denise McCoy purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gary Hesse.



Denise McCoy - November 05, 2024 at 06:56 PM

DM

“ Denise McCoy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gary Hesse.

Denise McCoy - November 05, 2024 at 06:56 PM



“ Medium Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Gary Hesse.



November 05, 2024 at 05:42 PM