



Gary L. Pease

September 17, 1940 - January 23, 2021

Gary L. Pease, 80, of Cedar Falls, passed away on Saturday, January 23, 2021, at UnityPoint Hospice-Allen Hospital. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Gary Lee Pease was born on Sept. 17, 1940, the son of Randall and Blanche Pease. He graduated from Sergeant Bluff High School in 1958. He worked at Toy National Bank in Sioux City until starting at Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls in the fall of 1960. During his time there, the college name was changed to State College of Iowa, and Gary graduated with a B.A. Degree in instrumental music in Jan. 1965. He touched many lives in his 39 years of teaching in Iowa at Graettinger, Hubbard, Rockwell City, Milford, Janesville, and Cedar Falls. He was a member of various professional organizations during those years. He also enjoyed judging at music contests. For several years after retiring in 2004, Gary continued as a substitute teacher.

Over the years, Gary enjoyed playing trombone in community bands at Sioux City, LeMars, Spencer, Waterloo, and 30 years in Cedar Falls. He played in the Washington Street Brass quintet for 17 years in Cedar Falls. Gary was a volunteer usher at Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center at UNI. Since the age of 14, he also sang in adult church choirs. He was a member of First United Methodist Church in Cedar Falls. Other interests included traveling with his wife, Annette, (whom he married Dec. 27, 1970), anything with trains, and watching baseball. His other joy was their daughter Angela who joined the family from Korea in 1983.

Gary was preceded in death by his parents, a brother Norman, father-in-law E. Richard Gelhaus, and brother-in-law Robert Hilley.

He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Annette, and daughter Angela (Drew) Waseskuk of Cedar Falls; mother-in-law Ruth Gelhaus; sisters-in-law Nancy Hilley, Beth (Dale) Allman, Debra (Mark) Baker; brothers-in-law David (Diane) Gelhaus and Steven Gelhaus.

The last 11 years Gary struggled with Alzheimer's dementia. Gary deeded his body to the University of Iowa Deeded Body program for education and research. Online condolences may be left at www.richardsonfuneralservice.com. Memorials may be directed to Friends of the Cedar Falls Band, PO Box 144, Cedar Falls, IA 50613; Charles and Marleta Matheson Endowed Scholarship and Artists Fund (220469-30), payable to UNI Foundation, 121 Commons, Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0239; or First United Methodist Church, 718 Clay St., Cedar Falls, IA 50613.

Previous Events

Gathering

JUN 16. 12:30 PM - 1:45 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
718 Clay Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
<http://aboutfirst.com>

Celebration of Life

JUN 16. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
718 Clay Street
Cedar Falls, IA 50613
<http://aboutfirst.com>

Tribute Wall

KE

“ I got to know Gary through our shared vocation of directing bands and teaching. He was always so cordial and welcoming when I would see him. He, Lee Triplitt and I had many great times together, especial when discussing trains, teaching band and baseball. I wish I would have been in town to pay my respects June 16, but I was directing the American Legion Boys State Choir in Des Moines. Please know that my thoughts and prayers for Gary and his family are always with you. - Kraig Emick, Jesup

Kraig Emick - June 19, 2021 at 01:06 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Gary L. Pease.



June 12, 2021 at 07:35 PM

RH

“ Mr. Pease was by far my favorite teacher while at Janesville. His love of music and his joy in working with his students is something I will never forget. He also had a very genuine laugh and looking back it was not one of those laughs that adults will sometimes have with kids...his was real. He also had an understanding of how things could be, and without saying anything at all communicate the general message of "hang in there". I am sure he helped many kids survive those difficult high school years. Prayers to Annette and the rest of his family and close friends. RIP Mr. Pease.

Randy Hewitt

Randy Hewitt - March 02, 2021 at 04:33 PM

JS

“ *Mrs. Pease and Family -*

I'm so sorry to learn of Gary's passing. I think I first met Gary when playing with the NEIBA big band. He also served as a judge for me at various festivals. I always enjoyed Gary's sense of humor and willingness to share his experiences. I wasn't aware that he had been ill. I'm so sorry for your loss. He was a wonderful mentor and friend.

*Jo Ann Sherman
Waukon High School Band Directo*

Jo Ann Sherman - March 02, 2021 at 11:42 AM

DB

“ *What memories!!! My mom was Gary's father's cousin. putting me in the cousin line..During our highschool years we ended up going to all the same honor bands, etc. and sat beside each other in the trombone section. Gary was appointed from Sg. Bluff and I from Pierson. We lost track of each other and were pleasantly surprised when taking our daughter back to UNI for a concert,there he was ushering. I do remember how thrilled they were to get their little girl. I don't remember ever meeting you, Annette, but you and your family have our sympathy. History all told, I have seven musicians in the family. Wish we had gotten together again.*

Dorothy Farber Blackburn

Dorothy Farber Blackburn@southslope.net - March 01, 2021 at 08:20 PM

KV

“ *Mr. Pease was my band instructor in Janesville until I graduated in 1991. He truly inspired me in developing my musical interests. It is one thing that I missed dearly during my adult life until recently when I joined my community band. He was a wonderful teacher and we shared having the same birthday!!*
Kim VerSteeg (Saunders)

Kim VerSteeg - February 06, 2021 at 07:30 PM

JG

“ *Dear Annette and Angela,
So sorry for your losses. Thinking of you and sending my sympathy. So many fond memories of you and your family during our summer visits at your farm. Hoping your memories bring you peace.
Take care.*
Jean (Aquila) Gabsewics

Jean (Aquila) Gabsewics - February 05, 2021 at 08:00 PM

SG

“ *Had a lot of fun times, laughing about life and taking walks. Such a talented musician and singer and probably would have been with Broadway, Hollywood or some Philharmonic. Miss you my brother-in-law and dear friend.*

Steve Gelhaus - February 05, 2021 at 01:03 PM

GS

“ *Gary was so quiet at our 4th of July gatherings, but I enjoyed our conversations, however short they may have been. Music was definitely his forté, I would love to have known him as a fellow teacher. Gladys Schmidt*

Gladys Schmidt - February 04, 2021 at 03:40 PM

AP

“ We, DArold and Arvella Pipho, who did volunteering with Gary express our deepest sympathy! As a floor captain, we saw him as a gentle guider, always smiling. He led with respect and a friendly atmosphere always. Such a talented man who led his life to teaching so many students. Than, also, he brought joy to so many people who heard him be a part of an orchestra etc.
Blessed be his memory/
Darold and Arvella Pipho

Arvella Pipho - February 02, 2021 at 07:32 AM

KW

“ I so enjoyed working with Gary at GBPAC. He loved music and was always friendly and kind. He will be remembered fondly. May memories bring you comfort in the coming days. Deepest sympathy

Kerri Wilson - February 01, 2021 at 11:48 AM

JF

“ Judy and I were saddened to hear of Gary's passings. I knew Gary from his contribution of his talents as a musician in the Cedar Valley. I also appreciated Gary's and Annette's support for our educational efforts. at Valley Park School when I was principal there. Angela, their daughter attended there. I remember him as a wonderful musician, man, and parent.
Our deepest sympathy to Annette, Angela and all of the Pease Family.

John Focht - January 31, 2021 at 09:43 PM



“ Clark and I always loved seeing Gary when we performed with the Municipal Band. He was a delightful gentleman - we enjoyed his sense of humor and always warm outreach to us. A fine musician, and a fine human being - he will be missed.
-Stephanie Althof

Stephanie Althof - January 27, 2021 at 11:03 PM



“ Thinking of you Annette, our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

Wendy Brace - January 27, 2021 at 09:31 PM



“ So sorry to hear about this. Mr. Pease was my band teacher from 6th-10th grade at Janesville. He was always so kind and patient. I often wondered where he was over the years. RIP. Prayers and condolences to his family and friends.

Stephanie Gage - January 27, 2021 at 09:24 PM



“ Mr. Pease was my band instructor in high school at Janesville. It was always kind and very patient with the students. We also had a lot of fun attending "honor" bands in Iowa. I also appreciate that he and Mrs. Pease came to my mother's wake a few years back. My sincere condolences to the family.
Kris Watson

Kris Watson - January 27, 2021 at 07:43 PM

LS

“ I’m so sad to hear of the loss of Mr. Pease! Sending you virtual hugs Angela, I’m so very sorry for your loss.

Laura Steege - January 27, 2021 at 07:32 PM

KC

“ Mr. Pease was one of my favorite teachers. His encouragement set me on a lifelong journey with my clarinet. Still playing and still grateful for the love of music he helped instill.

Kaylene Ruth Corcoran - January 26, 2021 at 09:16 PM

TB

“ Gary joined our family (Tammy, Dan, and Taylor) on a trip to Chicago in 2002, to see the Chicago Cubs. While there, we also took in the "Taste of Chicago" and listened to the Chicago Symphony play in time to the fireworks. It was an amazing trip! One we will never forget. He stood in line with our son, Taylor, for an hour to be able to sit in the bleacher sits. What an outstanding man!

Tammy Bern - January 26, 2021 at 06:17 PM

CM

“ So sorry to hear of Mr. Pease’s passing. Sending sympathies to Mrs. Pease and their family. I have many memories of good times in band at Janesville. Cassie Piper Mattson

Cassie Piper Mattson - January 26, 2021 at 04:32 PM

DD

“ Gary Pease was such a great friend, a solid dedicated trombonist, and had the world's heartiest laugh and ready smile. He was a fine effective role model for his many students, always ready to pitch in and help when needed, and added his special brand of professionalism to our CF Municipal Band. We were very pleased to publicly honor him for 30 years membership in July, 2016, and on our band hall "Wall of Fame." Wife Annette and daughter Angela made the loving family picture perfect. Gary will always be in our hearts and history. Peace to the family.

-Dennis Downs

Dennis Downs - January 26, 2021 at 12:34 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gary L. Pease.



January 25, 2021 at 10:34 PM

LL

“ Our deepest sympathy, Annette and Angela.
Michael and Linda Lewis

Linda Lewis - January 25, 2021 at 09:40 PM

SF

“ Rich and I enjoyed getting to know Gary and Annette in church choir back in the early 80s. Since Rich and I spent part of our early careers as band directors we had plenty of stories to swap with Gary. We had some fun times...Not least of which was going to Happy Chef after church and enjoying their giant cinnamon rolls with a side of frosting!

Susan Frevert - January 25, 2021 at 05:06 PM