



## Gene Lehman

November 7, 2008

Gene Lehman (1930-2008)

CEDAR FALLS- Gene Lehman, 78, of Cedar Falls, died Friday, November 7, at the Cedar Valley Hospice Home of cancer.

He was born April 30, 1930 in Cedar Falls, the son of Ernest and Katherine Brown Lehman. He married Sue Gerberich on November 17, 1956 in Cedar Falls.

Mr. Lehman was a 1948 graduate of Cedar Falls High School and a member of the National Guard. He was a salesman for Baxter Clothing before purchasing the business and running it as the Stag Shop for over 30 years, retiring in 1990. He served as Vice-President and President of the Cedar Basin Jazz Festival, and was a member of the Saints Dixieland Band, and later the Sugar Daddy's Jazz Band.

Survivors include his wife; three children, John (Kristie), Josh (Jennifer) and Jill Lehman; six grandchildren, all of Cedar Falls; and a sister, Lois Morgensen of Seattle, WA.

Preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Richard Lehman.

Services will be held 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, at Fredsville Lutheran Church, rural Cedar Falls, with burial in Fredsville Lutheran Church Cemetery. Friends may call from 2 to 7 p.m. Tuesday at Richardson Funeral Home, where family will be present from 5 to 7. Visitation also for one hour prior to services Wednesday at the church.

Memorials may be directed to the Fredsville Lutheran Church Building Fund or the Cedar Falls Historical Society.

# Tribute Wall



“ My condolences go out to family and friends in Gene's passing. I believe I stopped in at the Stag Shop on one of my first days as a resident in Cedar Falls in the early 70s'. From then on I saw Gene probably every week or so either there, at musical gigs, or just somewhere around town. Although I did not play regular gigs with Gene, I did occasionally "gig" with him. Whether at musical events or at the Stag Shop I always found him to be genuinely interested in what others were doing and a great listener. Additionally, his enthusiasm for music and life in general were hugely impressive, and he was always KIND and respectful---the classiest of guys. He is a CF "force" to be tremendously missed---great job in life Gene! God bless you and yours.

Tom Little

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November 13, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Josh - I'm so sorry to learn of the loss of your father. With my condolences and sympathy, Dori

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November 12, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ Over the past 60 years, Gene has contributed to the community in so positive ways. Cedar Falls has lost such a great person. I will never forget the Stag Shop as a kid. \$5 jeans, 10 cent cokes; what memories. Our Mother was part of Gene's Dixieland Band for years. I gotta believe that the band is back in business but in a better location than the Broom Factory. Condolences to the family and Sue. Hats off to the Lehman family for making Cedar Falls such a better place to live. Joe, Jim, Jeff.

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November 11, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *It was a honor to know Gene. He will be missed.*

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November 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ *Gene was a great person and a kind sole. He will be missed.*

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November 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM



“ I thought about skipping this and sending only a card, but then I remembered how very, very much it meant to Jeff and I that people took the time to share their thoughts and memories about his mother when she passed away.....so Sue this is for you. He was my friend, my fellow musician, he was my second father, he was MY father's dearest friend. What a better place this world is for having had Gene in it! His passion for music, his love for playing the banjo, for singing for dancing.....he filled the room with it! He was such a happy and positive person and he had many talents besides just his music and the band. Cedar Falls is better off for having known him, he gave so much to his beloved community and I am sure many would agree with me on this. He will be missed so dearly! I will miss him so very, very much. I have my memories near and dear in my heart of ALL the hours and hours of our playing together in the Saints. It was an honor to have him accompany me on my songs, I would look at him and he would just be BEAMING his encouragement to me. In front of some of the biggest crowds, I was never afraid because Gene along with my father and brother "had my back". How could you just not love Dixie music when Gene was around???!!!! How could you not love him. Like I said before, he was so committed and passionate. And he loved the people in his life the same way, so committed, so passionate. I am proud to call him my friend, my fellow musician and I will dearly miss him. But Sue, he is in a better place and I know WHO he is with and they are all making music! Gene was doing what he loved best right up to the end, what a testament to his faith. I hope someday I can be as strong as he. My sympathies and love to you Sue and your children at this time, and may God Bless you,

Lore' Beth Mick

November 10, 2008 at 12:00 AM