



Terry Gene Gunn

August 20, 1950 - June 4, 2019

On Tuesday, June 4, 2019, Terry Gunn, age 68, hit the final note on the keyboard of life, as he crossed peacefully from the earthly to the eternal at his home in O'Fallon, Missouri, surrounded by a host of family and friends.

Terry entered the world on August 20, 1950, in Bloomfield, Missouri, as the firstborn of Marion and Ruth Gunn. When Terry was a young boy, the family relocated to the Saint Louis area, where he was raised with his six younger siblings.

At the age of four, following a polio diagnosis, Terry began showing interest in the piano. Turning adversity into victory, Terry started down a path that led to him becoming a prolific songwriter and recording artist, who touched the lives of countless individuals worldwide.

Terry met Julia Chatman at youth camp when he was twelve-years-old. It was love at first sight for Terry, and he announced to his pastor that he was going to marry her. But from Julia's point of view, the feelings were far from mutual.

While attending Gateway College of Evangelism in the late 1960s, Terry began to receive invitations to accompany various gospel groups in the Saint Louis area, beginning a journey of more than thirty-nine years in full-time music ministry. But the highlight of his time at Gateway was when Julia finally

fell in love with him. After Terry and Julia married in March 1970, they traveled with Lanny and Marietta Wolfe for the next two years. The Gunns then relocated to Phoenix, Arizona, serving as full-time music ministers for the next four years. During this time, the Gunn family of two became three when Terry and Julia welcomed their firstborn, Christy. In 1977, Terry became the music director at Christian Life Center in Stockton, California. During their thirteen years in California, their family grew from three to five, with the births of Heather and Ryan. In 1990, the Terry Gunn family left Stockton and for the next seventeen years ministered throughout the United States and Canada. Most of their songs were original compositions written by Terry himself. In the 1970s, the Gunns recorded three projects with Herald Records. In the 1980s they recorded four custom projects in California; and in the 1990s they recorded several albums with Zion Music Group in Nashville, Tennessee. These included five family albums, two with Gateway College Choir & Chorale, and other piano projects. The Steeles, The Lesters, The Arnolds, The Singing Ambassadors, The Inspirations, and Greater Vision have all recorded some of Terry's songs. He also wrote and recorded a series of Praise and Worship Chorus books. In 2007, he released a family Christmas instrumental. Since then, Terry also recorded a series of piano instrumentals.

Terry loved his family, his music, and his 1948 five-window Chevy pickup. Known for his quick wit, jokes, and silly songs, Terry hung a sign in his motor home that read, "Laugh at yourself; everyone else does." That was Terry — always full of joy and laughter, finding humor in almost every situation. But above all else, Terry loved God and dedicated his entire life in service to the Kingdom. The legacy he leaves behind is one to be admired and emulated.

Terry was preceded in death by his sweet mother, Ruth Gunn. He is survived by his wife, Julia; his three children, Christy (Jonathan) Lucas, Heather (Grant) Edwards, Ryan (Michelle) Gunn; and five grandchildren who lovingly called him PawPaw, McKenzie Lucas, Aidan Edwards, JoLeigh Lucas, River

Gunn, and Kolten Gunn. Terry is also survived by his father, Marion Gunn; his four brothers, Jim (Linda) Gunn, Tom (Carol) Gunn, Dennis (Michell) Gunn, and Curt (Jennifer) Gunn; and two sisters, Marsha (Robin) Johnston, and Melanie Claborn. Oh, the shared memories these siblings have of wonderful times spent with the best big brother a person could want. Terry was also adored and will be greatly missed by his many nieces and nephews, as well as a multitude of family and friends.

Visitation will be at The Sanctuary, 965 Anglum Road, Hazelwood, Missouri, on Friday, June 7, 2019, from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM and Saturday, June 8, 2019, from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The funeral service will be held at The Sanctuary on Saturday, June 8, 2019, at 11:00 AM. Interment will be at Memorial Park Cemetery in Jennings, Missouri, immediately following the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to help the family with funeral expenses.

The family extends a special thanks to Archway Memorial Chapel for their care and support during this time.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park Cemetery

5200 Lucas and Hunt Road
St. Louis, MO 63121

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 7. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

The Sanctuary
965 Anglum Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042

Visitation

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

The Sanctuary
965 Anglum Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042

Funeral Services

JUN 8. 11:00 AM (CT)

The Sanctuary
965 Anglum Road
Hazelwood, MO 63042

Tribute Wall

CC

“ He was one of the greatest singers there ever was he will be Greatly missed.

Clyde campbell - June 11, 2019 at 11:50 PM

JM

“ Bro. Gunn was a wonderful and Godly man, touching the lives of those around him. His sense of humor and quick wit, clever wordplay and good natured ribbing, will be both greatly missed and fondly remembered. It is a comfort to know that he loved us as much as we loved him. He rarely gave us less than his very best and yet, somehow, we rarely ever got the best of him. We share the family's loss as though it were our own.

Jeremy and HollySue Mullings

Jeremy Mullings - June 08, 2019 at 10:35 AM

JS

“ Loved Brother Gunn, sang several times at our church. A true man of God.

jerry w stroh - June 07, 2019 at 09:16 PM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



June 07, 2019 at 06:37 PM

LG

“ Love Ted & Georgia Graves purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



Love Ted & Georgia Graves - June 07, 2019 at 12:46 PM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- Lavender and White was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



June 07, 2019 at 11:25 AM



“ Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



June 07, 2019 at 11:24 AM



“ Classic Sympathy Dish Garden was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



June 07, 2019 at 10:59 AM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



June 07, 2019 at 10:26 AM



“ I remember going to the Wisconsin District Bible Camp in the 70's. One year Lanny & Mariette Wolf lead choir, and Terry Gunn was the organist and pianist. I was blown away by his keyboard playing! I don't know if I've ever heard better. His playing transported me to Heaven on Earth. The angels have gained a great organist for their choir! My sympathies to the family for their loss. Dana (Maki) Knapp

Dana Knapp - June 07, 2019 at 08:25 AM



“ Terry & Gayla Baughman, LifeChurch, Gilbert AZ purchased the Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



Terry & Gayla Baughman, LifeChurch, Gilbert AZ - June 07, 2019 at 12:10 AM



“ May the LORD hold and bless you all. May God's peace continue to surround you. Everything will be all right. LOVE AND PEACE

Elizabeth Barnes - June 06, 2019 at 05:40 PM

GF

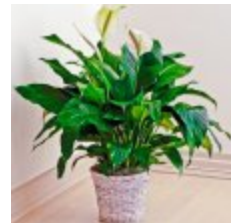
“ Terry Gunn impacted a generation of aspiring church musicians who grew up in the United Pentecostal Church. We up-and-comers looked up to him and were inspired by his keyboard skills and anointing. He set the bar a little higher. It was always a treat to hear him play at the MO District Youth Camps, for Gateway College of Evangelism Choir under Lanny Wolfe, etc. I wore out the first Gateway Choir album, "The Gateway Sound," listening to him play the organ while Sally Parker Ayers soloed on "I Thank You Lord." lol I remember Terry singing and playing the organ at youth camp one year where the presence of God literally inundated the tabernacle while he sang from the depths of his heart about how someday he would have no infirmities in Heaven. There wasn't a dry eye in that place. Moments like that stay with you. I know he is enjoying himself now and will probably be working on some funny music videos soon with which to welcome loved ones home some day. Thank you Bro. Terry! Job well done! :)

Gary Fiorino

Gary Fiorino - June 06, 2019 at 03:06 PM

KH

“ Kenneth Gunn, his children, Norma, Carolyn Hook purchased the Floor Plant for Sympathy for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



Kenneth Gunn, his children, Norma, Carolyn Hook - June 06, 2019 at 11:01 AM



“ *Yellow & White Rose Fireside Basket was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.*



June 06, 2019 at 10:21 AM



“ *My heart is saddened because of your great loss. But we are thankful for the wonderful hope we have. Praying for you all in this time of grieving.*

Beatrice Johnston - June 06, 2019 at 09:59 AM



“ *Terry Gunn has arrived in his eternal home. Our hearts are saddened for the family and the rest of us that knew him. Many years ago @ CLC he touched my life through his music ministry and allowing me to play piano and organ with him during congregation singing many times. I loved the song he wrote, "Going Home Celebration." I told him he had to outlive me and sing it at my homegoing - but he went to the Lord first! Rev. Ted Graves sang this song at my father's homegoing - Rev. Raymond Theobald. Our prayers will be with all the Gunn family. Pray the God of all comfort will continue to flood their hearts with His peace!*



We love you all!

*Revs. Harold & Carol Clemans
www.carolclemans.org*

Carol Clemans - June 05, 2019 at 06:10 PM

GT

“ I cannot even imagine how this world will be without the presence of this wonderfully talented and gifted man of God. I'm thankful for the time we were able to be blessed by being nearby and certainly keep the family in our prayers. Only Heaven knows the countless lives that he and his family have impacted for eternity! Much love!

Garry and Lois Truman - June 05, 2019 at 05:45 PM



“ Peace, Prayers & Blessings - Blue and White was purchased for the family of Terry Gene Gunn.



June 05, 2019 at 04:43 PM

NL

“ I met you and your lovely wife when I was 10 years old in Hawaii when you came to minister at our church family camp. Little did I realize that I'd ever see you again until I moved to Arizona and then to Missouri, nor have the opportunity to be the Sunday School to your youngest grandkids. I will miss your quick wit, your incredible talent, your unwavering strength, but mostly your kindness to me and letting me call you "shorty" to which you'd reply, "that's Bro. Shorty to you!" and finally the privilege to call you my friend. I will see you again Bro Terry Gunn and hear you tickle those ivories. Please say hello to your sweet mama for me.

Nani Liberty - June 05, 2019 at 04:33 PM

DW

“ Words are hard to come by for such a man as Bro Gunn, he was one of those people you only get to meet once in a life time. His humor, great wit and big smile will always be remembered. I have enjoyed all the music he has recorded and his piano playing is unmatched, and will miss his his playing at the church in St Louis. We had the opportunity to visit him and his precious wife at least once a year and can say they were always what you would call Godly people. I'm going to miss him, he was truly a great christian man. The cruise to Alaska with him and his wife was one of the best holiday's we have had. We also enjoyed sharing River and Kolten with with him and his wife, they mean the world to us and to them. Look forward to having a ride in his restored truck next time we are in St Louis. Love you Bro Gunn, David and Darlene Wilson from Williams Lake B.C.

David Wilson - June 05, 2019 at 04:07 PM


Christy
Lucas

Brother and Sis Wilson, you are more than just great friends, you became family a little over eleven years ago. We love and appreciate your family more than you will ever know. Thank you for sharing Michelle with us and thank you for all of the prayers as we celebrate dad over the next 36 hours.

♥ Christy

Christy Lucas - June 07, 2019 at 10:59 AM

JH

“ James/Susan Hughes lit a candle in memory of Terry Gene Gunn



James/Susan Hughes - June 05, 2019 at 04:01 PM



“ Kenneth McGhee sent a virtual gift in memory of Terry Gene Gunn



Kenneth McGhee - June 04, 2019 at 07:04 PM



“ Kenneth McGhee lit a candle in memory of Terry Gene Gunn



Kenneth McGhee - June 04, 2019 at 07:04 PM