



Gerald "Jerry" Frank Perkins

March 18, 1945 - December 6, 2013

Gerald "Jerry" Frank Perkins, 68, of Morrilton passed away on December 6, 2013 from a severe respiratory illness. Born March 18, 1945 in Harlington, TX, his family soon moved to Minnesota where he grew up. He was the son of Torolf and Lorys Day Perkins. He was in the US Air Force from 1963-1967 and served in Vietnam. He then obtained his bachelors and masters degrees from the University of MN.

After a brief time working at Virginia Tech University in Blackburg, VA, he moved his family to AR in 1979 to work for Winrock International on Petit Jean Mt. In 1985 he accepted a position at the AR State Health Dept. where he served as Director of Data Processing for 21 years.

After retirement in 2006 he became an active member/officer with the Morrilton VFW Post #4453. He was instrumental in the creation and implementation of the the local "Walk of Flags" with the corporation of St. Vincent Hospital of Morrilton. Jerry also served as treasurer of the Morrilton Endzone Club and the River Valley Beekeepers Association.

Jerry is survived by his high school sweetheart and wife of 47 years, Jan Perkins, two daughters, Jodi Riedmueller (Chris), and Jill Beall (Gordon) both of Morrilton; two sons, Joel Perkins (Maria) of Chandler, AZ and Jacob Perkins (Laura) of Rogers, AR, and ten grandchildren. Jerry and Jan have been host parents for 26 AFS foreign exchange students over the past 28 years.

A memorial service will be held at the Harris Funeral Home Chapel, in

Morrilton, on Sunday, December 15th at 2:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the VFW Post #4453 at 98 City Park, Morrilton, AR 72110.

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerald "Jerry" Frank Perkins*

January 30, 2023 at 02:08 AM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Jerry was a great man...He will be missed....He was a true friend....*
dvmxn

Bobby Gilbert - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM



“ *Jodi and Jill, Praying for you and your family during this difficult time.*

Tracie Canada - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM



“ *I worked with Jerry at the Dept of Health. He was a good friend. I am so sorry for your loss..*

Jo Hill - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM



“ *I worked with him for quite a few years at the Department of Health, and I really thought a lot of Jerry. I don't suppose you could say we were close friends, but I always thought he was a great guy. I'm very sorry for your loss.*

mac heird - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

LL

“ Jerry and I worked on numerous IT projects during our years at the Health Department. When I first met Jerry I thought he was a grizzly bear because of his size and gruff nature. Once I got to know him, it turned out he was actually a teddy bear - a soft, kind person. He may not agreed with what one said but he always listened. I am sorry for your loss.

Lewis Leslie - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

MD

“ I worked at ADH with Jerry from 1987 until his retirement. I admired his passion for whatever he did. Be it his exchange students, getting the best for "my guys" in IT or just his point of view, he was all in.

Marilyn Dunavant - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

DC

“ Jan - Sam & I are praying for you & your family. May God comfort you & give you strength during this difficult time.

Doris Crow - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

JJ

“ So sorry to hear of Jerry's passing. I worked with him for several years at ADH and always found him to be a very personable person. Jerry will be missed. Praying for the Perkins family.

Jim Jones - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

AS

“ I really enjoyed working with Jerry. His expertise, vision and savvy helped the Arkansas WIC Program acquire funds to build the first online, realtime computer system for WIC in the nation. Along with Bert Wells, we went on several roadshows to demo our accomplishments. I can say that our relationship with a Jerry was the envy of WIC Programs all over the country. My heartfelt sympathy to all his family.

Anita Southard - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

JG

“ I had the privilege to work with Jerry fairly closely when he first got to ADH (when it was DP and Accounting; later ITS and FM) and over the years following in multiple programs. He made me mad, he hurt my feelings, and made me feel like I was doing a good job over the years. He had a talent to bring out the best in people by cussing, coddling, bullying, and praising. I'll miss him. So sorry for your loss. He touched a lot of people.

jamie gramkow - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

TL

“ Jerry was a wonderful, kind and loving man, father and husband. He always made me feel comfortable and welcomed in his home. He surely will be missed by all of his friends and family.

Tony Lawrence-Harjo - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

LP

“ I just wanted to let you know that I am not going to be able to make it to Jerry's funeral. I am so sorry for your loss. I don't know but I can only imagine that it is so hard to lose your husband & best friend. I do know how the kids are feeling. I wish I could take away the pain that you all are going through and in my experience, it does get better with time but maybe you all can have peace knowing that he isn't hurting or isn't sick anymore and that Dad (Howard Penz) and Jerry are cuttin' up and causing mischief together again! I am praying for comfort & peace for you and the kids & grand kids. He was such a good & fun man. I will miss him dearly. Hang in there and I am always here to talk if you all ever need me. I love you all!
RIP Jer-Bear!

Linda Penz-Hailey - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

AR

“ I worked with Jerry for many years at ADH. I'll always remember his big heart and even bigger smile. I am so sorry for your loss. He was a great guy and I enjoyed working with him

Ann Russell - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

WZ

“ My prayers and deepest condolences to the family.

Wayne Zachary - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

HW

“ Im so sorry to see this. He was a good boss.

harold wood - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

IA

“ I am sorry to learn about Dad passing away. Please accept my condolences.

I still remember the school year that I spent as an international student in AR in Jerry's family. He was a good man and a host father.

Igor Arshinenko - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM

HW

“ I worked for Jerry, I still miss him.

Harold Wood - June 29, 2018 at 08:32 PM