



Augustine A. "Gus" Stefanek

April 13, 1927 - May 9, 2023

Augustine "Gus" Stefanek passed away peacefully on May 9th, with his wife of 69 years and 11 months by his side. Augustine Andrew was born in Cleveland on April 13, 1927, and was the 7th of 9 children.

Gus was a Navy veteran and was able to attend college on the GI bill. He started college at the University of Dayton but because of his brother-in-law's influence, he transferred to the University of Notre Dame. Upon receiving his diploma at the Notre Dame graduation, the legendary Father Hesburgh spent extra time in conversation with Gus, to the delight of his proud Mom and Dad. His education was not the only thing he gleaned in South Bend; it was there he met the love of his life Ruth. They were married in June 1953.

After graduation, Gus began his career as a C.P.A. with Haskins and Sells. In 1955, he went to work for Anchor Motor Freight in Cleveland. He moved to Detroit in 1966 to work for Inter-City Trucking and eventually became co-owner of the company. He served as vice-chairman for the American Trucking Association, president of the Michigan Trucking Association, and was on the board of Governors of the Regular Common Carrier Conference.

Gus was an avid golfer. He was a long-time member of Birmingham Country Club in Birmingham, Michigan, and Quail Creek Country Club in Naples, Florida. Gus was very proud of his six holes-in-one and a double-eagle.

Gus was an outstanding role model for his children, grandchildren, and extended family. He set an example and achieved success through his strong faith, dedication, and hard work. Gus was also very charitable. He donated to

many charitable organizations including Angels Place and countless American Indian schools and charities.

Gus's favorite things included: his faith, golf, Notre Dame sports, vodka on the rocks with a slice of orange, cowboy movies, watching the Lawrence Welk show with Ruthie, crossword and jumble puzzles, taking pens from doctors' offices, coconut squares, Italian subs, American cheese, naps (also known as "sneaks"), watching sunsets, and Willie Nelson. He especially enjoyed listening to songs of faith including Amazing Grace and Just a Closer Walk with Thee. Gus was also known for his signature sayings: "Got that Right", "60/40", "Love you More", and – his lighthearted parting quip – "Don't go away mad, just go away!"

He had a big smile and an even bigger heart.

Gus is survived by his wife Ruth, his children; Mark (Kathy), Jill Ackerman, Karen Lussier (Kurt), Gregg, Nancy Allen (Joe), and Patrick, his 10 grandchildren, and 7 great-grandchildren.

Gus's final resting place will be at the University of Notre Dame. The ceremony will be held at Notre Dame at a later date.

To sign his guest register or to leave online condolences please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are being handled by Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Cemetery Details

Cedar Grove Cemetery at Notre Dame

South Bend, IN

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ *Augustine A. "Gus" Stefanek*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Augustine A. "Gus" Stefanek.*



May 20, 2023 at 06:22 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Augustine A. "Gus" Stefanek.

May 20, 2023 at 06:22 PM



“ *I was so sorry to hear about Gus. My name is Kim Graves and I am Ruth & Bill Rogers daughter. My parents spent many years at Casa Grande before their passing. My family and I would visit often and we had the pleasure of meeting Gus many times. He and Ruth were such a wonderful couple. My heartfelt condolences to all his family and friends.*

kim Graves - May 20, 2023 at 01:43 PM

MZ

“ Bob and I had much fun with Ruth and Gus years ago when we lived in Bloomfield Hills. Bob and Gus had business together and also golf and a few rounds of beer now and then. Gus was always fun. My condolences to you, Ruth. I know your fine family will take good care of you and you are a strong lady on your own.

Marajeane Zodtner

Marajeane Zodtner - May 19, 2023 at 10:24 AM

SD

“ Perhaps his greatest aspect on me was how to approach Matchplay & how it related to life, you're always in it !! Never give up & stay positive !! He was a true steward of the game & even better Gentlemen & kind soul..

STEPHANE DEBUSSCHERE - May 15, 2023 at 05:01 PM

SD

“ STEPHANE DEBUSSCHERE lit a candle in memory of Augustine Stefanek



STEPHANE DEBUSSCHERE - May 15, 2023 at 04:59 PM

PP

“ Mr. Stefanek was my boss at Inter-City Trucking for many years. Mr. Stefanek loved to talk about his grandchildren, he would always smile when he talked about them. My prayers are with you & the family.

patty perry - May 15, 2023 at 03:53 PM

CR

“ We go back quite a few years. I know how much my husband, Jack, enjoyed his friendship with Gus throughout the BCC years. I am grateful to have known Karen for many years as well. I can see the smile on Fr. Glackin's face when Gus arrived in heaven. I am so very sorry for the grief your family is experiencing, but I know that Gus will remain forever in all of our hearts.

Carol Roberts - May 15, 2023 at 08:54 AM

BP

“ I send my sincere sympathy, Ruth. This brings to memory so many fun times with you and Gus.

Bob Painter

Bob Painter - May 14, 2023 at 01:00 PM

SH

“ So sorry for your loss. Wishing your family beautiful memories of a life well lived.

Scott and Marina Houghton - May 13, 2023 at 02:54 PM

TD

“ Betty and I extend our deepest sympathy to Ruth and the entire Stefanek family. Gus was a legend and we enjoyed all of our our time with him. He was really tough to beat on the golf course, but every moment was another laugh. A true ND man! I'm sure Fr Hesburgh welcomed him at the pearly gates!

Terry Desmond - May 12, 2023 at 10:04 PM

MW

“ To Mrs. Stefanek, Mark and the entire Stefanek family: My condolences on the passing of your husband and father. May he rest in peace. God bless all of you.

Mike Westervelt, ND '76

Mike Westervelt - May 12, 2023 at 08:56 PM