



## Daniel E. Girard

December 1, 1943 - January 8, 2023

Daniel E Girard, 79, of Estero, FL and W. Granby, CT, left this world peacefully on January 8, 2023. He was born on December 1, 1943, to Dominique and Bernadette (Ferland) Girard, in Simsbury, CT, where he was raised and attended high school. This August he would have celebrated his 60th wedding anniversary, married to his beloved wife, Elaine (Lescarbeau) Girard. They met at their high school graduation party and married 2 years later. They raised their 3 children in their beautiful W. Granby home, with February vacations to Disney and visiting family in Florida. Their love of the outdoors and mild temperatures led them to become “snowbirds”, then eventually Florida residents. It has been said by many, that their marriage is the gold standard that many aspire to.

In addition to his wife, Danny leaves his children, Paula Abrahamson, and her husband, Todd of Colchester, CT; Steven Girard and his wife Bonnie, of W. Granby, CT, and Karen Sanstrom and her husband, Linus, of Hebron, CT. He was just simply the best dad in the world! He was so proud of his 6 grandchildren, who all grew up locally, so there was lots of family time spent together. He delighted in seeing them all grow up to become wonderful adults. His grandchildren adored their “Papa”. Rachel and Nathan, Heather and Kyle and Jacob and Abby were so blessed to grow up and learn his life lessons. He leaves behind his 4 devoted sisters, Lorette Archer, Susan Menard, Valerie North and her husband, Kevin and Donna Bemont and her husband Randy,

as well as many brother and sister in laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends, all who he loved dearly and who loved him. There really was no such thing as an “in law”, marriage or blood, you were family. And family was everything to him.

Danny was predeceased by a son-in-law, Steven Abrahamson, and twin granddaughters Emma and Sadie Abrahamson, who he is surely holding in his arms now. There are so many rejoicing with him in Heaven, as we mourn him here on earth, including 4 brother-in-laws, Roland, Paul, Albert and Al, his mom and dad, Bernie and Mickey, his parents in-law, Jeannette and Roland, a nephew, Jeff, and many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Danny grew up on a farm in Simsbury, CT, which is where his hard work ethic was formed. He joined the US Air Force in 1961 and served in the Air National Guard, until his honorable discharge in 1967. He worked as a cabinet maker and then joined the family business, eventually becoming VP of SimsCroft-Echo Farms, Inc. He was also very involved with the Utilities Contractors Association in CT. He worked alongside his cousins, who were more like brothers, Michael, David and Greg until his retirement in 2012.

Danny was talented and creative. No task ever seemed too big. His home in CT always had the perfect lawn, framing the beautiful brick driveway and unique raised patio that he built, complete with a fountain and surrounded by gorgeous out-buildings and landscaping. He brought his talents to his home in Estero, FL, where he was the inspiration behind the “Breck Deck”, a beautiful patio that the Breckenridge community enjoys every day.

Danny will be missed by so many. He was very active in his church (both CT and FL) and a devout Catholic. Many will remember him with a tennis racket in his hand. His love of tennis was almost as great as his love of church and family. He loved to sit on the Breck Deck or at the Granby Tennis Club and

enjoy a beer with friends after a match. He loved to fix things, help others, play marbles (of course he crafted the marbles board himself), work on any project, be outdoors and socialize. He loved music, Elvis, Queen and outdoor concerts. His family will always cherish the summer tradition of sharing a table at Simsbury Meadows, for the Hartford Symphony summer concert series. He just loved life and people in a way that we should all learn from.

This is why, when a series of debilitating strokes took away his speech, and left him physically incapacitated, we were all devastated beyond words. To see such a bright light go out, has been unfathomable. We are all struggling, trying to imagine a world without Danny in it. But he would absolutely want us to live life to the fullest as he did, remembering to always be humble, loyal, loving and kind.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Thursday, January 12th, at 2:00 P.M. in Our Lady of Light Catholic Community, 19680 Cypress View Drive. All are welcome. This day is significant because Danny's mother, who recently passed at the age of 100, is being laid to rest on the same day in CT. His father's funeral was also on January 12th, in 2011. There will also be a Celebration of Life held at the Breckenridge Clubhouse on February 17th at 6:00 P.M. In addition, there will be a Mass of Christian Burial with Military Honors, in CT sometime in May of 2023. Details will be forth-coming.

In lieu, of flowers, please make a donation to your favorite charity.

To sign Danny's guest register or to leave online condolences, please visit [www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com](http://www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com)

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



# Previous Events

## Mass of Christian Burial

JAN 12. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Our Lady of Light Catholic Community  
19680 Cypress View Dr  
Fort Myers, FL 33967-6201  
(239) 267-7088

# Tribute Wall



“ *Daniel E. Girard*

October 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM



“ *Danny was such a great guy. He contributed so much to Breckenridge. His mark is left everywhere.. He always had a kind word when you had just lost a tennis match. He himself was a great tennis player. He will be missed. Ruth Parsons*

**Ruth Parsons** - February 13, 2023 at 01:36 PM



“ *What a kind, genuine soul Danny was. He will truly be missed by all.*



**Erica Fitzgerald** - January 13, 2023 at 09:56 AM

PA

“ Thank you to everyone who thought of us yesterday at my dad’s funeral mass. Whether you were with us in person or spirit, we felt it. The love and support shown to my family during this very difficult time will never be forgotten. I know my mom will not be alone when my sister and I head back north. With our sincerest thanks. Paula



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**paula abrahamson** - January 13, 2023 at 08:10 AM

SM

*finally sending love to my brother and his family i will miss him but he'll live forever in my heart*

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**susan menard** - January 15, 2023 at 11:46 AM

VN

*He was THE best brother- loving, kind, devoted, humble, hardworking - I could go on and on. He will be missed but never forgotten.*

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**Valerie North** - January 16, 2023 at 09:09 PM

PA

“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



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**paula abrahamson** - January 13, 2023 at 08:06 AM

EO

“ *I first met Danny in the late 90's when I visit Breckenridge as a guest of fellow Syracusan Bert Hills. From the first time I played tennis with him that day, I knew this was a man who loved, cared for, and worked to improve the Breckenridge community. I knew then that this was a community I wanted to be part of and Danny was a man I wanted as a friend. I am glad we had a 20 year friendship and I know our community and I have lost a treasured member. God bless his soul and bring solace and comfort to his family.*

*Ed Olender*

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**Edward J Olender** - January 11, 2023 at 08:49 PM

DL

“ *Danny was a positive, kind, friendly and upbeat competitor/leader. Playing tennis and socializing with him and his family at GTC was something we always looked forward to. Our thoughts and prayers are with Danny and his family. Dave & Lexi Landry*

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**Dave and Lexi Landry** - January 11, 2023 at 05:49 PM

LV

“ Bob and I would like to send our heartfelt condolences to Elaine and the family. Dan was such an asset to Breckenridge. He will be greatly missed. I was lucky enough to work with him through the Master Landscape Committee. We worked on several projects together for the Tennis areas. He was such an easy going yet knowable man. Rest in Peace Dan.

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**Linda Vreeland** - January 11, 2023 at 11:08 AM

PA

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Paula Abrahamson** - January 11, 2023 at 10:49 AM

CL

“ Danny, you were my first brother-in-law and you set the standard very high. You have always lent a listening ear, accompanied by reassuring hugs when needed. You were always the first person we went to when we needed advice on home repair - you always knew a person that could help but many times that person became you. We are so glad that you were able to enjoy so many years in Breckenridge. We will miss you, but we will see you again!

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**Carol lindberg** - January 11, 2023 at 09:04 AM



“ Martha and I would like to extend our condolences to the Girard family.

We moved to Breckenridge in late 2014 and had only known Dan for 6 or 7 years. We envy those who have enjoyed a much longer relationship.

Martha interacted with Dan about responsibilities for the Breck deck as a member of the clubhouse committee.

As a fellow Master Board member, I had frequent interactions with Dan and learned to respect his accomplishments not only in the Tennis community but in the entire Breckenridge community. This was especially the case on the Paving Committee.

Breckenridge has lost a valued member of our community.

Gary Green - January 11, 2023 at 08:00 AM



“ Kevin and Anita Kelly purchased the Delightful Di effenbachia for the family of Daniel E. Girard.



Kevin and Anita Kelly - January 10, 2023 at 03:41 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Daniel E. Girard.



January 10, 2023 at 12:42 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Daniel E. Girard.*



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January 10, 2023 at 09:28 AM



“ *Judy and Dave Conero purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Daniel E. Girard.*

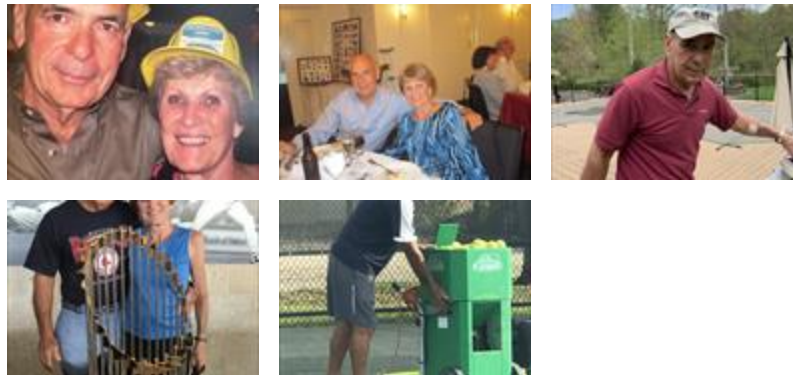


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**Judy and Dave Conero** - January 09, 2023 at 08:33 PM



“ *8 files added to the tribute wall*



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**paula abrahamson** - January 09, 2023 at 07:30 PM

RV

“ Danny's last words to me was “I can't wait to get out of this place”..... He had met w his Priest prior to my visit..... Danny you're there.....You're in Heaven bud ..... I only knew you for a moment but your lasting impression is eternal

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**Rob Vinal** - January 09, 2023 at 07:22 PM

AG

“ Danny was a wonderful, wonderful person in every way, A great husband, a tremendous family man and a friend that everyone would love to have. I have had the great privilege of knowing Danny my whole life and enjoyed playing sports, baseball and tennis, planning and working on special projects together. Many people talk of doing things but Danny was a doer. He made things happen and carried them to fruition. He had the foresight and courage to accomplish any task. I will miss my cousin, although he was like a brother to me, immensely.  
My sincere condolences to the whole family. I love you all.  
Aimé Girard

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**Aimé Girard** - January 09, 2023 at 06:31 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Daniel E. Girard.



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January 09, 2023 at 06:30 PM

JF

“ *Having the pleasure of knowing & working for Danny since 1985 was a gift, taking traits from that man could only make you a better person yourself, he will never be forgotten.*

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**Jim Farrell** - January 09, 2023 at 05:12 PM

JS

“ *And at their wedding I met and married his wonderful cousin Roch of 53 years. Favorite memory was them staying with us in Florida to look for their own place in Fort Myers, drinking wine on the balcony.*

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**Jeanine Girard, Elaine's sister** - January 09, 2023 at 04:33 PM