



David W. Gaunt

March 7, 1923 - January 5, 2017

David W. Gaunt, 93 of Rushville, passed away January 5, 2017. He was born March 7, 1923 in Anderson, IN to the late Floyd and Golda Gaunt. His primary and secondary education happened squarely within the years of the Great Depression, beginning in 1929 and seeing him graduate from Anderson High School in 1941. He went to Indiana University and pledged the Pi chapter of Beta Theta Pi. News of Pearl Harbor inspired him to enlist in the United States Army. He would eventually serve as a technical sergeant on the island of Sri Lanka, spending 3 years there managing a large ration warehouse. He moonlighted playing piano in the company dance band and volunteered organ for Sunday services. In 1946 he returned to the Beta House and picked up the nickname "Boogie" for his preferred genre of piano. He earned a bachelor's degree in business in 1948, then took a job managing S.S. Kresge five and dime stores. Transferring from store to store in and around Indiana over the next 7 years, David began to yearn for a more stable lifestyle. To this end he looked for a business venture in central Indiana. He bought the Glenwood Elevator Company in 1955, moved to Rushville and began to lay roots. He joined the Rotary Club and served it for 30 years, one as president. He joined the First Baptist Church. He met and married Rhea Sue King, who had three children from a former marriage. David adopted them and had two more of his own. They joined St. Paul's United Methodist Church where David was active in Sunday School and directed the choir for many years. He divorced in 1976. About this time he joined the Rush County Players, and performed in and

directed numerous productions. He sold the Glenwood Elevator in 1978 and became an agent for Farm Bureau Insurance. This he did for 5 years. His next calling would find him substitute teaching at RCHS, where he became known as "Super Sub". After retiring he delved into his hobby of oil painting and studied under Bill Ashby at the Indianapolis Art League. David painted many portraits over the next 20 years. The last three years of his life, suffering from congestive heart failure, no longer able to paint or play the piano, he endured a steady decline of body. His mental faculties remained sound, his spirit undiminished. Even in the last days of his life he retained his signature humor, grace and conscientiousness to others.

David is survived by his sons, Dr. Michael W. (Melanie) Kane of Bloomington, Thomas J. (Vicki) Gaunt of Avon, David L. Gaunt of Rushville, Paul F. (DeMaris) Gaunt of Fishers, 4 grandchildren, and his sister, Martha A. Keller of Rochester, NY. David is preceded in death by his brother, Dr. Everett W. Gaunt, and daughter Elizabeth D. Gaunt.

A memorial service will be held at 12PM Saturday, January 14, 2017 at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Rushville. Friends are welcome to visit from 10 AM until the time of service. Pastors Roy Ice and Phil Mitchell will preside.

Tribute Wall



“ *David W. Gaunt*

January 28, 2023 at 12:19 PM



“ *Rick and I are very sad to learn just this evening of Dave's passing this past January. He was a very kind soul and super talented. We still have a framed ink sketch of St. Paul's UMC from 1971. He will be missed!*

We send our love and condolences to the Gaunt family.

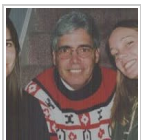
Jana Turner Jay - March 11, 2017 at 07:12 PM



“ *I learned of David's passing today. My condolences to the Gaunt family. I own one of those David W. Gaunt paintings of The Village Candlemaker shop in Nashville. He donated to Rush County Schools for a silent auction that I bid on and won. Remember the "Gaunt House" very well growing up in that part of town with Mike, Beth & Tom. RIP.*



Greg Raike - February 16, 2017 at 11:58 AM



“ *Dave was always such a level headed man who never wasted any talents God gave him. I really enjoyed talking with him years ago as well as later in life. he will be missed by all who knew him. We need more Dave Gaunt's the world! I am a better person for having known him!*

John Gridley - January 14, 2017 at 05:44 AM



“ *Sapphire Skies Bouquet was purchased for the family of David W. Gaunt.*



January 13, 2017 at 09:52 AM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of David W. Gaunt.*



January 11, 2017 at 03:14 PM



“ *Lisa Dunn Brown lit a candle in memory of David W. Gaunt*




Lisa Dunn Brown - January 10, 2017 at 08:41 PM



“ *I was a secretary at Farm Bureau Insurance when Dave worked there. He always called me Rotten..I enjoyed playing tricks on all the agents. Sorry i was not able to attend the viewing but I was in Arizona.. I enjoyed Dave's humor and his Christmas cards he sent each year of his drawings.*


Marlene Fudge - January 10, 2017 at 06:12 PM

 Tara
Koohns
Eckart

“ *Tara Koohns Eckart lit a candle in memory of David W. Gaunt*



Tara Koohns Eckart - January 10, 2017 at 05:09 PM

 Tara
Koohns
Eckart

So sad to see this tonight. Dave has always had a kind heart and spirit. I know that he is telling stories and painting beautiful pictures in heaven now. Prayers are with you Dave Jr., Paul and the rest of the family.

Tara Koohns Eckart - January 10, 2017 at 05:11 PM

EM

“ *Loved having Mr. Gaunt as a sub, he was so very kind and always had time to talk and listen if you needed a friendly ear.*

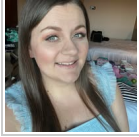
Erin McDaniel - January 10, 2017 at 12:21 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of David W. Gaunt.*



January 10, 2017 at 11:58 AM



“ *I had the privilege to take care of David towards the end. He was such a kind and gentle soul. I loved seeing the paintings he painted and hearing him talk. He always told me he loved the name Megan and wished me the best in nursing school. I only knew him for a short time, but I know he will be missed by many.*



Megan Adams - January 09, 2017 at 06:56 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Paul Gaunt - January 09, 2017 at 01:14 PM

TD

“ My memories of David go all the way back to 1968. I spent my childhood growing up with Paul and spent a great deal of time at the Gaunt household before we moved to North Carolina. I remember playing under the big maple tree and swing in their backyard and seeing David come home from work most days in his red international pickup with the red and white Purina Feeds checker block signs on the doors (which I still think was a cool truck today). Paul and I were at the Glenwood elevator a couple of times running around and enjoying a candy bar from the office. Not sure if they knew or not. I remember Dave did oil paintings and was always very, very kind to me. I also remember his often spoken words to his kids.. "stop that". I last saw David when I was passing thru Rushville in October of 2010. I stopped by the house and we had a nice conversation. It was a huge house for one man to live in, but it seemed his presence still filled it up. I have always thought Paul looked most like David and sounds a bit like him as well. My heart goes out to everybody, Mike, Tom, David Jr, and Paul. I know David will be missed greatly by everyone.

Tim Davis

Tim Davis - January 08, 2017 at 05:13 PM



“ Dave was such an intelligent man and a great conversationalist. I remember I always felt a little richer after an encounter with him. He led a good long life and touched so many people. My thoughts and prayers are with Dave Jr. and other loved ones during this time.

Lori Land - January 08, 2017 at 10:48 AM

HJ

“ I graduated in May 1955 from New Salem High School and became David's first bookkeeper at Glenwood Elevator which he had just bought from the Cherry family. We had a lot of fun learning the business together. He hired three fellows for summer help who consisted of Bob Foster, Charlie Stumpf, and Carl Smith. Dave and I became good friends to a lot of the Glenwood farmers and families. I considered Dave one of my best friends and always will.

Helen Jinks - January 06, 2017 at 11:01 AM

OB

My friend, Boogie Gaunt, and I have been friends since 1947. He was playing the piano at the Beta Theta Pi house at Indiana when I first met him. He was known for his "boogie woogie" with a talented left hand and we became fraternity brothers. He was a "true" friend in ever sense of the word and I consider him one my best friends. Dave was a very talented individual, an incredible painter, a wonderful Christian, a true friend and a gentlemen. We took painting lessons together at Zola Wright at Mays, Indiana. He was a joy to sit and talk with especially about subjects like finance and investing, and life in general. We exchanged paintings and the one we have, of a vase and a necklace, Pat and I cherish. In 1947 he painted a portrait of Pat that hangs to this day in bedroom. His family is also so very talented in both art and music and were inspired by Dave. We had made arrangements to celebrate his birthday this spring and he was very positive. Pat and I will miss him terribly and we express our love and devotion and condolences to his wonderful family. Pat and Otto Busard.

Otto Busard - January 08, 2017 at 04:39 PM