



Russel B. Gillespie Jr.

May 8, 1954 - March 13, 2014

Russel B. Gillespie Jr., age 59, of Huntington, died at 6:12 p.m. Thursday (March 13, 2014) at Lutheran Hospital in Fort Wayne.

Family will receive friends from 2 p.m. - 6 p.m. Sunday (March 16, 2014) at The Awakening Community Church, 235 Safari Trail in Huntington. Funeral services will be held at 6 p.m. Sunday (March 16, 2014) at The Awakening Community Church with Pastor Jeff Carrell officiating. Burial will be Monday (March 17, 2014) at 2 p.m. in Anderson Memorial Park Cemetery in Anderson.

Preferred memorials are to Cancer Services for Huntington County in Memory of Russel B. Gillespie Sr., in care of Bailey-Love Mortuary, 35 West Park Drive, Huntington, IN.

Russ was born May 8, 1954 in Anderson, the son of Russel B. Sr. and Barbara (Gaw) Gillespie. He graduated from Anderson High School in 1972. He married Margaret C. Fritsch on July 4, 1974 in Anderson. He worked for General Motors in Fort Wayne for over 35 years as Material Superintendent. He loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren.

Russ is survived by his wife of 39 years, Margaret C. Gillespie of Huntington; his mother - Barbara Ann Gillespie of Anderson; two sons - Russel B. Gillespie III of Fort Wayne and Jay M. (Lyndsey) Gillespie of Huntington; one

daughter - Brandy A. Gillespie of Fort Wayne; two sisters - Kim (Skip) Hamilton of Anderson and Jill (Jerry) Baker of Anderson; eight grandchildren - Nathan Mygrant, Josh Mygrant, Gavin Schmucker, Alexis Gillespie, Brayden Gillespie, Oliver Gillespie, Lucy Gillespie, Max Gillespie. His father precedes him in death.

Cemetery Details

Anderson Memorial Park

6805 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
Anderson, IN 46013

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 16. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

The Awakening Community Church
235 Safari trail
Huntington, IN 46750
<http://www.theawakeningcc.com>

Service

MAR 16. 6:00 PM (ET)

The Awakening Community Church
235 Safari trail
Huntington, IN 46750
<http://www.theawakeningcc.com>

Tribute Wall

BL

“ Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Russel B. Gillespie Jr.



Adkins Bailey-Love Mortuary - March 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ I just browsed the UAW retiree page and noticed Russ's obit. I'm totally shaken to hear of his passing. Russ was a people boss. He was never too busy to listen to you if you had something to hash over or just needed to bend his ear. Russ on several occasions listened to me when I was down and out after finding my kid brother dead, after he had killed himself, Russ was one of the (what I call my rocks - people I could trust) to vent some anger and mostly hurt out to, and Russ never backed away from listening to me. He kept me from jumping back in the "jug" of booze .. He had a big heart and was giving of himself to many people. I not only liked Russ but moreover I respected him very much. He was in fact one of the best bosses I knew at FWA. My sincerest condolences to Russ's Family.. I'll keep you in my prayers..

*Bill Fraunfelder
Retired T.C. Material Dept. J dock.*

Bill FRAunfelder - April 28, 2014 at 09:51 AM

VD

“ I had the pleasure of working with Russ for 14 years at Ft. Wayne Assembly. When I received word that Russ had passed, it was like a shockwave that stabbed at many of our hearts here at the Warren, Michigan Technical Center. I remember Russ as a high energy guy, who was unafraid to tackle any challenge. Russ' Christian faith was reflected in how he treated others and his dedication to his family was reflected in the way he lived every day, celebrated in the pictures contained within the wonderful video on this website. Russ is an example of a life well-lived and I hope his family can gain comfort in the many wonderful memories that Russ leaves behind. May God bless and bring comfort to Russ, his beautiful family and all those who now grieve for him. Russ would want all of us to honor him by living the rest of our lives to the fullest. "I am sorry you had to leave us so soon, my friend. I count myself fortunate for having crossed paths with you." Your sister in Christ, Vickie Dolis



Vickie Dolis - March 16, 2014 at 04:08 PM

BS

I worked for Russ while I was at GM. He was one of the best men to work for. He would always take the time to say "hi" whenever he saw you. Always a smile on his face and time to help. My sincere sympathy to his family.
Barbara Sharp

Barbara Sharp - March 22, 2014 at 03:48 PM

JM

“ I always enjoyed working with Russ. A real gentle soul. He will be missed dearly.

Jeff Moore

Jeff Moore - March 16, 2014 at 08:03 AM

PL

“ I have known Russ since the GM plant opened. He was always a good man to work for. He was always fair to me. Even though I have retired two years ago I always knew that big Russ was still in that chair in the material department at GM whenever I thought of the plant. Its hard for me to believe that he is no longer there. My prayers go out to the entire family at this time and in the years ahead.

Phil Lulfs RN

phil lulfs - March 15, 2014 at 10:42 PM

DB

“ To Russ's family and friends. Sorry for the passing of Russ. He was one of my bosses when I worked in the material department. He was definitely the most fair managers I ever knew. I knew he had the hardest job dealing with upper management and a few of the trouble makers working the floor. If God makes one work in heaven, Russ will have a no stress job. R I P Russel. Dave Barnett Retired 2nd shift T.C. J,G and W docks

Dave Barnett - March 15, 2014 at 10:03 PM

DC

“ Russ was a very easy person to like. Always had a smile and a good word for everyone. Russ was one of my favorite co-workers!!
David Carson---final department, retired.

David Carson - March 15, 2014 at 09:56 PM

GM

“ Russ - You will be missed dearly by me. You were one of the first people I met when my family and I moved to Fort Wayne from Oklahoma with GM. From that point on, you and I always stopped to say Hi and see how each of us were doing. I will never forget you and will always respect what we had at work. Your family is in our prayers and if they need anything, just let me know.

Gerald Myers - March 15, 2014 at 04:56 PM

DT

“ My condolences to Russ' family. I worked for Russ at the Ft. Wayne Assembly Plant. He was a very nice man to work for. I live in Anderson so he and I would talk from time to time about growing up in Anderson. He will truly, truly be missed, not only by me, but by everyone at Ft. Wayne Assembly. R.I.P. Russ
Donnie Teeters

Donald Teeters - March 15, 2014 at 02:58 PM

TC

“ Russ was a great guy and fellow GM employee. He loved his family and friends. He is the type of guy that would do anything for anyone and helped when he could. He will be missed by his GM co-workers.

Tim Crum

Tim Crum - March 15, 2014 at 12:03 PM

AC

“ Russ was one of the good guys. It was a pleasure working with him. Your family is our prayers. Mr. & Mrs. Adam Clark

Adam Clark - March 14, 2014 at 05:06 PM

SJ

“ Russ - a fellow Hoosier fan - always had a kind word and smile. We enjoyed many ornery moments teasing our non-I.U. coworkers. He is missed already.

Stephanie Jentgen - March 14, 2014 at 02:30 PM

ST

*Russ was a good boss while i worked at ft wayne
Stan thompson*

stan thompson - March 15, 2014 at 01:55 PM

RF

Russ was the kind of boss that made you want to go to work everyday. He was a people boss and was willing to listen to your concerns. I am sure he will be missed dearly by his family. Family and friends have lost a great man. RIP Russ

Ron Fritzke - March 16, 2014 at 08:49 AM