



Jerry Turner

February 14, 1942 - July 23, 2022

Jerry D. Turner lived eighty good years, ending on July 23, 2022. He was born in Ohio on February 14, 1942, to William Raymond Turner and Nellie Naomi Lanning, who preceded him in death. The family included two older brothers, James R. Turner and Larry R. Turner, and a younger sister, Jeanne Turner Earley. Jim, the eldest, died in 2009. The remaining siblings have remained close to one another.

The Turner family moved to Grove City, Pennsylvania, when Jerry was only three and the family home was there for many years. After Jerry began his university years in Pittsburgh, he met his future wife Gay Gardner on a blind date which led to their marriage on July 23, 1962, and the beginning of a wonderful family. Jerry's academic life continued in Pennsylvania for several years as he earned his MA at the University of Pittsburgh and taught English both there and at Behrend College in Erie, Pennsylvania.

Life in Texas began in 1968, as Jerry went to the University of Texas in Austin to receive his PhD. He continued teaching college English classes, mostly in literature, while there and later at Navarro College. The family, with sons David and Christopher, moved to Corsicana in 1974. It was several years later, while Jerry was teaching at Navarro College, that their daughter Jennifer was born.

Jerry often referred to the years of his birth and his rebirth, as he experienced a major shift in his life through a remarkable experience with God in Austin. That salvation experience changed his outlook on life and began his love for the Bible and for his savior Jesus Christ. From that point on, his main goal in life was to serve and please God. This is how most people who have known Jerry in these last fifty years will remember him. He had such love for God, for family and for friends!

In 1984, after training at Christ for the Nations in Dallas, Jerry was ordained as a minister of the gospel. He and Gay returned to Corsicana and continued the ministry at The Ark bookstore begun by John and Violet Dickson, who established the store's presence downtown. Jerry loved the opportunity to meet so many brothers and sisters in Christ and to help people select Bibles and Bible helps.

In addition to church ministry and The Ark, Jerry became involved with Christian education at Corsicana Christian Academy, serving on the board for several years. He also served several years on the board of the Hope Center, formerly Pro Life of Navarro County, another ministry that was extremely important to him. Jerry taught Bible classes for decades. People will remember him for these and many other reasons.

In addition to his two remaining siblings, Jerry is survived by his wife Gay. He was a loving father to son David and his wife Susan Turner; son Christopher and his wife Marsha Turner; and daughter Jennifer Turner and her partner Dan Luddy. Beloved grandchildren include Chris's children, Katie Turner and Michael Turner (wife Rose); Jennifer's children Bobby and Charlie Luddy; and several past and present step-grandchildren.

The family would like to express much gratitude for caregiving help toward the end of Jerry's life. We do appreciate the compassionate, excellent care

provided by Home Helpers (Shepherd's Touch), The Village at Heritage Oaks, and New Century Hospice.

The funeral service for Jerry will be held at Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home at 11:00 on Saturday, July 30th, officiated by his pastor Byron Ayers, Max Rash assisting. Visitation will be there from 6:00 to 8:00 on Friday evening, July 29th.

Cemetery Details

Hamilton - Beeman Cemetery

700 Farm to Market 2555
Corsicana, TX 75110

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 29. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana
1530 N. 45th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110
(903) 874-4774
info@griffin-roughton.com

Funeral Service

JUL 30. 11:00 AM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Corsicana
1530 N. 45th Street
Corsicana, TX 75110
(903) 874-4774
info@griffin-roughton.com

Tribute Wall



“ *Jerry Turner*

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Jerry Turner.*



July 27, 2022 at 06:59 PM



“ *A wonderful man of God. He will be missed !*



Christie Mayer - July 27, 2022 at 04:08 PM



“ *I met this awesome man of the Lord back in the day at memorial Baptist now high point Church he was a such a sweet man.. Im glad I got serve with at high point Church*

Josh Adams - July 27, 2022 at 03:10 AM

LT

“ Love Kathleen, Jacque, Cindy and Therese purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Jerry Turner.



Love Kathleen, Jacque, Cindy and Therese - July 26, 2022 at 05:45 PM

PK

“ He was the kindest most helpful person i met. When looking for allmy Christmas ideas for 2 small churches he offer suggestions and ordered music i needed. A great Christian man



Pat kelly - July 26, 2022 at 12:41 PM

LG

“ Jerry was an incredibly kind, smart, funny man. He made the world better with his whole existence.

Jerry and Gay are both beacons of love and I am grateful they are part of my life.

I am saddened at Jerry's passing but grateful that he is no longer bound by disease.

My thoughts and prayers are with Gay, the kids, and all of Jerry's family and friends.

Lee Anna Galey

Lee Anna Galey - July 26, 2022 at 10:47 AM

MP

“ We've loved Jerry and Gay Turner for many years, and it was with sadness we learned of his passing. We had the privilege of knowing him as friends, as customers of their business, as fellow church members, and as members of his excellent Sunday School class. Jerry was a very special man, and he will be missed. We will look forward to seeing him again one day. Mary Jane and Weldon Plemons

Mary Jane Plemons - July 24, 2022 at 09:17 PM

DL

“ Brother Jerry Turner was one of the finest Christian gentlemen I have ever known. He contributed much to the kingdom of God during his lifetime and was a tremendous blessing to this community.

Dan Layne - July 23, 2022 at 09:42 PM

CF

Dan Layne, you voiced my feelings for Jerry. I have known Jerry and Gaye since they moved to Corsicana and have never known a more Godly couple. Jerry will be missed by many. Gaye was beside Jerry every day serving God and Gaye I know you will miss him. Praying for God's Comfort for you and the boys
Caroline Fullerton

Caroline Fullerton - July 24, 2022 at 03:49 PM

SH

Brother Jerry Turner was always filled with love from the Lord. He helped me to grow so much in my relationship with the Lord. He always had wisdom to impart to younger christians. I am sure the Lord was able to say well done good and faithful brother. May God comfort you Gaye and your family at this time

Steve Hart - July 24, 2022 at 05:56 PM