



## Duncan William Gairns

January 2, 1940 - January 10, 2018

Duncan William Gairns, age 78, of Pennsville, NJ passed away on Wednesday, January 10, 2018. He was born in Carneys Point, NJ, he was the son of John and Anna (Engle) Gairns.

He was a graduate of St. James High School, Class of '58 and Goldey Beacom College. He was a U.S. Army Veteran, serving as a radio/teletype operator at Ft. Hood, TX during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

He worked several jobs before being hired as a dispatcher for Chemical Leaman Tank Lines in Bridgeport, NJ, retiring as a Terminal Manager for Quality Carriers (OLC), in Wilmington, DE.

Duncan was an avid Eagles fan and "loved" losing his money at the Casinos. He was a regular at Rachel's Market, for his daily scratch off lottery ticket fix. He was a one of a kind character who could always make you laugh and he had a "way with words" speaking whatever was on his mind, and we mean WHATEVER was on his mind! But, he was always willing to go above and beyond to help in need.

Duncan was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend. He loved his family, but we all know it was his dog Maggie that he loved the most! You wouldn't see him without her if he could help it. He loved being around people and going to dinner with his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Eileen and Bob Lawless, and was very thankful for their help.

Leaving to cherish his memory are his wife, Kathleen (McCarthy), daughters Joyce (Greg) Wood, Valerie Opsal, grandchildren Dylan Opsal, Jessica Opsal,

Calvin Wood and Derek Wood, brother Patrick Gairns (Karen Huffstodt), sisters Phyllis Owen, Mary Lou (Richard) Motoyoshi and Jackie Starn, and in-laws Eileen and Bob Lawless and Pat Beavers, his loving dog Maggie and many adoring nieces and nephews.

He was pre-deceased by his parents, sisters Sally McKendrick and Ann Rowe and brothers-in-law Paul Rowe, Donald Starn and Joe Owen.

A viewing will be held from 6-8 pm, Monday January 15 and 9:30-10:30am, Tuesday January 16 at the Ashcraft Funeral Home, 740 South Broadway, Pennsville, NJ. The Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 am, Tuesday, January 16, at St. Gabriel the Archangel (Corpus Christi) Parish, 369 Georgetown Road, Carneys Point, NJ and followed by interment at St Mary's Cemetery in Salem, NJ.

In lieu of flowers, those who desire may make a donation in memory of Duncan to the Disabled American Veterans of NJ, 171 Jersey St., Bldg. 5, Floor 2, Trenton, NJ 08611 or the charity of your choice.

[www.ashcraftfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ashcraftfuneralhomes.com)

# Cemetery Details

## St. Mary's Cemetery

Salem, NJ 08079

# Previous Events

## Viewing

JAN 15. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Ashcraft Funeral Home (PV)  
740 S. Broadway  
Pennsville, NJ 08070  
(856) 299-3366  
ashcraftfuneralhomes@gmail.com

## Viewing

JAN 16. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Ashcraft Funeral Home (PV)  
740 S. Broadway  
Pennsville, NJ 08070  
(856) 299-3366  
ashcraftfuneralhomes@gmail.com

## **a Mass of Christian Burial**

---

JAN **16**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Gabriel the Archangel Parish- Corpus Christi RC Church  
369 Georgetown Rd.  
Carneys Point, NJ 08069  
(856) 299-3833

# Tribute Wall



“ 29 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Ashcraft Funeral Homes - January 14, 2018 at 03:51 PM

JC

“ *Kathy and Family*

*So very sorry to hear about the passing of Duncan.*

*Remember him well before and after your marriage. He was a great guy,*

*always a lot of fun to be around.*

*Jim Conte, Wilmington, De*

Jim Conte - January 14, 2018 at 10:54 AM

SA

“ *Kathy, I was so saddened to see this.... Duncan was one of a kind! I will always remember when he told me if my butt got any bigger he would use it as a shelf for his drink! Of all my memories of him, that is probably the funniest!*

sandy - January 13, 2018 at 09:18 PM

SJ

“ Uncle Duncan,

*I am going to miss you so much! I have so many wonderful memories of your love, your support and your incredible sense of humor. I've spent so much time these last few days remembering all the times that you were there for me during my difficult teenage years and how sensitive and caring you were for any of the family who was going through a difficult time. I especially treasure how you had such a onery sense of humor and made all family gatherings really entertaining!!!*

*It's not fair that you were taken from us so soon!*

*I love you,  
Sharon*

---

**Sharon Johnson** - January 12, 2018 at 04:10 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Duncan William Gairns.



---

January 12, 2018 at 03:54 PM