



William F. Gayner

September 23, 1935 - April 26, 2025

William F. Gayner, a proud United States Marine Corps veteran, passed away peacefully on April 26, 2025, at the age of 89.

Born on September 23, 1935, William lived a life marked by service, strength, and a deep love for his family. He was preceded in death by his beloved son, Bill Gayner.

He is survived by his daughter, Kelly Vandembeldt, and her husband Matt, as well as his daughter-in-law, Jean Gayner.

William was a devoted grandfather to Melanie (Joe) Payne, Jamie Gayner, Drew Gambrell, Hailey Gambrell, and Sophie Vandembeldt, and a cherished step-grandfather to John and Richard Bongiovanni. He was also a proud great-grandfather to Amy Payne, Kyle Thompson, Quinn Thompson, JW Payne, and Joey Collins.

There will be no services.

Tribute Wall

KB

“ My condolences to the Gayner family. Bill was truly my mentor in the late 80s at O'Hare Airport in Chicago as I began my career in construction safety. Bill was my boss for just a few months at Near North Insurance Agency, and I think he saw something in me because he recommended me for a job with a construction company at the airport. After a few years there, I left the airport for 11 years and came back in 2001; now I am nearing retirement. Bill put the bug in me for the fun of working at the airport, and when I had the chance to come back, I did. I owe this all to Bill.

Within 5 minutes of meeting him, Bill asked me one question. "Brown, are you afraid of heights?" I didn't answer right of way, and he knew. He replied loudly, "F%%%%% GREAT!" as he exhaled his cigarette. He got me over that fear quickly, and that allowed me to stay in this field.

Rest in peace, Bill, and thank you for taking a chance on me when you were "forced" to take me. You set the foundation for my career and I am forever grateful.

Ken Brown

Ken Brown - August 16, 2025 at 12:06 PM

MV

“ Michael Valichka lit a candle in memory of William F. Gayner



Michael Valichka - April 30, 2025 at 06:18 AM

JD

“ *Dear John and Richard,
So sorry for your loss! Our condolences.*

Jim/JayeLaurel Davis - April 29, 2025 at 04:41 PM

CM

“ *Carol Molinari-monks lit a candle in memory
of William F. Gayner*



carol molinari-monks - April 29, 2025 at 04:25 PM