



Gerald A. Charest

September 17, 1927 - February 1, 2016

COLEBROOK – Gerald Alfred Charest, 88, of Colebrook, passed away peacefully at his home on Monday morning, Feb. 1, 2016, surrounded by his loving family and after a long period of failing health.

He was born on Sept. 17, 1927, in Berlin, NH, the son of the late Alfred and Marie-Louise (Major) Charest. The Charests later moved to Canada to escape the effects of the Great Depression, and at the age of 14, Jerry quit school to support his mother and five siblings after his father passed away.

When he was 18 years old he joined the U.S. Army and was a proud World War II veteran, serving time in Japan during the reconstruction of the country after the war ended.

After completing his military service, Jerry settled in Colebrook and learned the plumbing trade from Daniel Hebert. He worked for Daniel Hebert Inc. and later struck out on his own as an independent plumber.

Jerry and his wife, Leone, moved to Panama City Beach, Fla., in 1972. He earned his Master Plumbing, Electrician, and HVAC licenses and worked for twenty years as a foreman for a construction company on the building of condominiums in Panama City Beach. In 1989, Jerry and Leone moved to Wildwood, Fla., to be closer to their two daughters and grandchildren. They

came home to Colebrook every summer, where Jerry returned to work for Daniel Hebert, and continued a professional and personal friendship of more than 50 years.

After the passing of his wife, Leone, in 2013, Jerry moved back to his home in Colebrook where he remained until his death.

His greatest joy in life was spending time with family and friends, and he will be remembered as a humble, caring man who always had a smile and was kind to all, and loved life. Anyone who knew him well would comment that “they just don’t make good men like that anymore.”

Family members include his daughters, Dianna Spitolnick and husband Scott of Tampa, Fla., Cynthia Vallier of Orlando, Fla., and Carol Ladd and fiancé Mark Forte of Auburn, NH; 6 grandchildren, Matthew Rainville, Justin Ladd, Benjamin and Zachary Spitolnick, Stephanie and Danielle Vallier; great-granddaughter Bella Rainville and great-grandson Ryan Ladd; siblings, Gil and Roger Charest of Quebec City, Que., Guy Charest of Montreal, Que.; and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his loving wife, Leone (Frizzell) Charest, and a son, Daniel “Bucky” Rainville; a brother, Robert Charest, and a sister, Claire Charest.

There are no public calling hours. A graveside committal service with military honors will be held later in the spring in the Colebrook Village Cemetery of which notice will be given.

Expressions of sympathy may be made to the 45th Parallel EMS, 46 Ramsey Rd., Colebrook, NH 03576.

Condolences may be offered to the family on-line by going to www.jenkinsnewman.com.

Funeral arrangements in NH are under the direction of Jenkins & Newman Funeral Home in Colebrook.

Cemetery Details

Colebrook Village Cemetery

North Main Street, U.S. Route 3
Colebrook, NH

Tribute Wall

CK

“ Our families go back a long way. It was a Blessing for me to be able to go in in the very small service I could provide for Jerry. He was always a very kind and generous person. It was a pleasure. I thank you for contacting me to assist. It touched my Heart. He always had a kind word and a smile that lit up the room ! May God touch your hearts and may his peace bring to your hearts many fond memories. My Love to you all. God Bless Love Chris (pinckney) Kirk



Chris Kirk - February 10, 2016 at 04:09 PM

GE

“ To the family, Cindy, Diana, Carol and extended members:

So sorry to hear of your loss but now he can be reconnected with your Mom. Please know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. He was a special man to you and your family.

Peace to you. Georgie

Georgie - February 08, 2016 at 04:41 PM

L(

“ Loved my visits with you and Leone when I came to Colebrook. Jessica was my very first friend as a child. You are all together again and will miss all. R I P till we all meet again. Lilly

Lillian (Forbes)Thibeault - February 07, 2016 at 04:30 PM

JC

“ *Jan And Phil Corliss lit a candle in memory of Gerald A. Charest*



Jan and Phil Corliss - February 05, 2016 at 11:58 AM

JC

Phil always enjoyed working with Gerry at Hebert's. He had a great deal of respect for a wonderful man. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time. He can once again try to keep Fimmie and Frizz straight!

Jan and Phil Corliss - February 05, 2016 at 12:00 PM

KM

“ *Carol, Cindy and Dianna-What a kind and gentle man Gerry was, and he loved you girls so much. I will always think of him when I see someone with a "crewcut."*
Thinking of all of you. Kathy and Randy

Kathy and Randy McIntyre - February 04, 2016 at 02:15 PM

CH

“ *Gerry was a very wonderful sweet man. He will be missed. He was surrounded by love during the last days with his daughters at his side. My love to you all.*

Cheryl & Dan

Cheryl - February 03, 2016 at 11:16 AM

GA

“ Carol and Family -

So sad to hear of your father's passing. Keep your memories close to your heart.

With sympathy,

Glenda Angelone

Glenda Angelone - February 03, 2016 at 08:26 AM

JU

“ Carol and family,
I'm so sorry to hear of the loss of your father. It's never easy no matter the age. My thoughts are with you.
Judy Lang

Judy - February 03, 2016 at 07:50 AM

BH

“ *To Jerry's family and his caregivers our deepest sympathy. What a wonderful person. We are so glad we got to visit him recently. He was always so friendly and cheerful. He always had a smile. He will be missed but now he and Leone are together again, and we are thankful for that.*

Brad and Barbara Hann - February 02, 2016 at 06:58 PM

LB

“ *Jerry was a wonderful person and will be remembered for his kindness to others, so sorry for your loss*



Lana Brooks - February 02, 2016 at 01:13 PM

RM

“ *Dianna, Cindy and Carol- Jerry always reminded me of the 'perfect gentleman' and at the same time was ready to live it up. Many fond memories of him and your mom. My condolences to you and your families.*

Rosey

Rosemary Mulliken - February 02, 2016 at 12:55 PM



Jerry was a great guy, my sincere condolences to the family

Bob Moore - February 02, 2016 at 05:06 PM

CB

Jerry was such a wonderful man, we always loved to visit Jerry and Leone when they were home in the summer. Our sympathies to Cindy, Dianna, Carol and other family members.

Cindy Bissonnette - February 02, 2016 at 08:04 PM

JF

So sorry to hear of his passing... Sending you and your wonderful family healing hugs - Jay and Jeff

Jay Forte - February 03, 2016 at 08:02 AM