



Eugene Maines

March 12, 1960 - November 18, 2023

Eugene “Gene” Maines, 63, of Grand Island passed away on November 18, 2023 at UNMC in Omaha.

Celebration of Life services will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. on December 16, 2023 at Borders Inn in the Atrium, 3333 Ramada Road, Grand Island.

All Faiths Funeral Home is entrusted with arrangements, Memorials are suggested to Toys for Tots or Crossroads Mission.

Gene was born to of Howard and Shirley (Moses) Maines. He spent his years in Elementary School in New York and moved with his family to Florida when he was 13. Gene attended college and trade school in the electrical field and was an Electrical Contractor and Controls Engineer. He moved to Grand Island NE in 1998.

Gene liked to work on cars and motorcycles and anything mechanical. Electricity was his work, but Harley’s were his passion. Gene loved riding. He liked listening to music, particularly 70’s rock or anything that inspired the highway ride. He also loved flying kites and salt water fishing and was an amazing problem solver. Gene also really enjoyed trying international cuisine and liked Pho and various Thai dishes. Gene adored his grandchildren and loved when they visited.

His memory is cherished by his son, Michael Maines of Richmond, VA ; significant other of 28 years, Pat Washburn of Grand Island, her son, Derek (Amber) Washburn and grandchildren, Maylei and Chayton of Arvada, Co; brother, Stephen (Alice) Davis of Elmira, NY; sisters, Claudia (David Jackson) Maines of NPR, Fl, Alyssia (Don) Chapman- Impink of Kyle, Tx; two nieces; four nephews, and four great-nieces; four great-nephews; sisters and brothers-in-law, Jim (Annette) O'Byrne, Rich (Barb) O'Byrne, and Jeff (Barb Howard) Mohr of Watertown, SD, Jackie (John) Anderson and Rita Mier of Sioux Falls, SD, and Kelly Mohr of Henning, MN; along with many loving cousins and numerous extended family and friends.

Gene was preceded in death by his parents, sisters-in-law, Judy Hein and Roxanne O'Brien.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Gathering

DEC 16. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Boarders Inn Atrium
3333 Ramada Road
Grand Island, NE

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Eugene Maines.



December 04, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ George, Jason, Mandy OBrien & Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eugene Maines.

George, Jason, Mandy OBrien & Family - December 04, 2023 at 10:25 AM



“ Gene was my very best friend during our elementary school years in Elmira, NY. We were practically inseparable. I loved Gene. Although I had my own brother, I considered Gene as my second brother. I first met Gene when his sister Alyssia introduced us when my family moved next door in the summer of 1967. It was at the side of my house on Walnut st riding my bike when she brought him over. From there on out the strong bond and connection began. Between 1967 until the time Gene and his family moved to Florida in 1973, we spent nearly everyday day together.

We spent most of the summers on the Chemung river fishing and rafting since we lived next to the river at Water and Walnut St in Elmira. We were the modern day Huck Finn(Gene) and Tom Sawyer(myself). One of the most memorable moments was rafting. Before we bought our inflatable rafts using our parents S&H green stamps, we built a raft using spare lumber from his Dads scrape lumber pile. Then Gene being the young entrepreneur decided to use his mother's old dinette set that she planned to sell, to attach to the raft and charge neighborhood kids for a dining river tours. After several successful tours making the beginings of our fortune the raft started to come apart and we lost the set. Fortunately no customers wete on the raft and we made it to shore only to be grounded for several weeks because of the dinette set!

When we weren't on the river we were playing baseball, both little league and sand lot pickup games with the neighborhood. We had the dream of becoming the the next Cy Young(myself) and Johnny Bench(Gene). Over time, Gene had acquired a complete catchers outfit. We'd spend hours pitching and catching. I ended up with one heck of a curve ball thanks to Gene's persistence on practicing!

Another example of Gene's creativity and imagination is the building of a bicycle race track on an old empty lot next to his house. We would race other kids, but in end at the final laps it was Gene and I going neck and neck just like Earnhardt and Jeff Gordon.

Then in June 1972 tropical storm Agnes changed our lives forever. Gene's parents home on Walnut st next to river was condemned due to severe flood damage. Early the following year March of 1973 was that last time Gene and I saw each other. His family relocated

to New Port Richey , FL. He came to visit at my house and I remember to this day his moms station wagon pulling away out of sight. Although I had plans to visit him in Florida we went our seperate ways. I became involved an Football and wrestling in my high school years which took up all my spare time.

Then in 2017 with the power of social media we reconnected. The strange crazy thing about it is the bond was still there strong after all those years. After retiring earlier this year I was planning on visiting Gene this coming summer in NE. Unfortunately Gene is now gone, so we won't get that opportunity. I waited too long! But I know someday I will see him again. Until then Rest in Peace my dear friend. Rest in Peace

Ray Quackenbush - November 28, 2023 at 03:00 PM

CM

So very sweet Ray, such fond memories shared. I remember the raft. Running a long side

Claudia Maines - November 29, 2023 at 10:55 AM

SS

What a wonderful story and a far away glimpse into Gene's youth. I Really Enjoyed it.

Steve Schroeder - December 07, 2023 at 12:04 PM

MF

“ *Gene was a true friend
We go back 38 years. Many miles together on bikes and lots of
electrical projects.
But mostly our brotherhood . There are so many stories to tell!
Our paths took us thousands of miles apart, but we always
remained in touch .
Ride on brother until we meet again!
Mike Furdock/ Florida*



Mike Furdock - November 26, 2023 at 04:53 AM

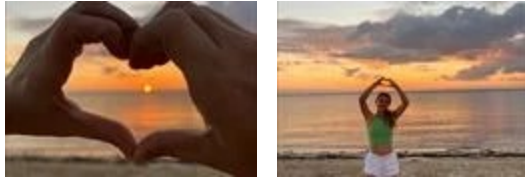
MF

“ *I just found out today that you left us way too early.
Our friendship goes back 39 years and I know we pulled many a
miles of wire together and road many a miles together on our Hogs.
Although our paths took us thousands of mile apart you always
reached out and asked how things were going. So many stories we
shared . Gene you were like a brother to me.
I know you're wrenching on that panhead up there and looking for
those pesky oil drips.
Until we meet again my friend ride on.*

Mike Furdock - November 25, 2023 at 07:31 PM

MW

“ *Maylei dedicating these to Poppy...*



Maylei Washburn - November 25, 2023 at 10:40 AM

JA

“ *RIP Geno❤️ Usually when you come into a family as big as ours(9 siblings) I would say chances are at least one of them probably isn't going to care for you. Well that wasn't the case when Pat introduced Geno to the family for the first time. We all loved him immediately, he was such a kind and gentle soul always so much fun to be around. Geno you were loved by us all and you will truly be missed*

❤️

Jackie Anderson - November 23, 2023 at 08:38 PM

PW

“ *1 file added to the album Photos*



Patricia Washburn - November 23, 2023 at 07:02 AM

BH

“ *Gene was a good soul. When Gene and Pat stayed at our (new to us) home Gene fixed two doors so they worked right and checked our electrical system. That's Gene as a guest.*

Barbara Howard - November 23, 2023 at 06:37 AM

DW

“ I thought a lot s out this and is very difficult to write. I cannot choose just one memory as I was just 17 years old when Gene and mom met and started “dating.” As you can imagine, a young man who knew nothing of the world wanted nothing to do with welcome some other man in his life. Gene quickly pulled me aside and set me straight. I’ll never forget that conversation, it changed me for the better. The next 28 years flew by but Gene was there when I met the move of my life (Amber), when Maylei came in to this world, and then Chayton. We rode Milwaukee Pig Iron together, burned (inside term), did countless DIY projects that always led to 17 trips to Menard’s, Judo class and MMA training, and the list goes on. I’m so very thankful to call Gene my own and my kids never knew anything different than Poppy was their grandpa.

I could go on and on but having to lick just one point in time, my best memory would be our trip to Sturgis. Our dumb asses decided April was a perfect time to ride the Hogs in to western South Dakota. The first few days were amazing and included Meedles Highway, Mount Rushmore, Deadwood, Slearfish, a shirt in of food, and finally Custer. Our second to last day there we caught wind a snow storm was descending upon us the next day. We decided to boogey out of there to avoid being trapped and proceeded to ride just over 7 hours in about 40 degree weather with rain luring down. We had to stop about every 50-75 miles or so and warm up at random gas stations. At the time, it was more miserable than basic training was, it looking back at it now, I wouldn’t trade it for anything. We bonded, burned, laughed, had an amazing trip.

I will never forget you and the impacts you had on me, it most importantly, my kids (your grandkids).

Forever in our hearts and always remembered.

We love you Poppy, and always will.

Derek Washburn - November 22, 2023 at 03:59 PM

CM

Thank you for sharing such beautiful memories with us.

Claudia Maines - November 23, 2023 at 09:17 PM

JD

“ *It was an honor to have known Gene. His memory will always be with us all. He was a fighter with a gruff voice and a warm heart.*

Jonathan Daniel - November 22, 2023 at 01:55 PM

CM

It was nice meeting you and thank you for being Genes' friend and for sending flowers to Mike.

Claudia Maines - November 26, 2023 at 08:55 AM



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November 22, 2023 at 01:53 PM