



Gary Lino Peace

August 12, 1965 - December 31, 2022

Gary Lino Peace, 57, of Grand Island, NE entered the arms of Jesus on December 31, 2022 at his home, surrounded by his loving wife and children. Gary heroically fought Glioblastoma (brain cancer) for 5+ years, surpassing the 9-12 month prognosis given to him on October 16, 2017.

Services in Gary's honor will be on Friday, January 6, 2022 at All Faiths Funeral Home; public visitation will be from 1 – 2:30, followed by The Rosary at 2:30 and services at 3:00. The Rev. Richard Piontkowski will be the celebrant. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the family for later distribution to Glioblastoma research and family/caregiver support organizations. Family requests casual or Husker apparel. Following his services there will be a Celebration of Life at Huddle Lounge in Westside Lanes, 112 Kaufman Ave, beginning at 5 pm.

Online condolences may be left at www.giallfaiths.com.

Gary was born on August 12, 1965 in King City, CA to Barbara (Kelly) and Lino Peace. Gary moved with his family to Grand Island when he was in the 2nd grade where he attended Knickeram elementary school and Grand Island Central Catholic, graduating in 1984. After graduation, Gary went to Concordia on a football and baseball scholarship. As luck would have it, he was injured during a football game and decided that it was time to move on. Gary attended Phoenix Institute of Technology in Scottsdale, AZ studying Electronics Technology. Shortly before graduation, he attended a job fair where he submitted an application to the Central Intelligence Agency, and

then a short 2 years later he was hired. Gary received his Bachelor of Science in Information Technology from the University of Phoenix.

On August 7, 1989, Gary met the love of his life, Stephanie Schlueter and he made her his trophy wife on December 30, 1989. Throughout their 33 years of marriage, they had the privilege of serving their government and the experience of living in 11 different countries. Despite some hardships, trials, and tribulations they encountered along the way; they wholeheartedly agree that God created them specifically for one another. On their wedding day, Gary presented his bride the gift of motherhood with his beautiful 13-month-old daughter, Nichole. In 1994, Steph honored Gary with the birth of their son, John Brennan. Gary took great pride in his role of fatherhood and treasured the title of Dad, setting the bar high with his undying commitment to his children. He felt with pride that parenthood was his greatest accomplishment, until his daughter and son-in-law (Logan) blessed him with four amazing grandchildren – Kaedance-14, Owen-8, Eleanor-6 and Bennett-6.

In 1990, Gary and Stephanie commenced their overseas adventures with their first move to Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Throughout his 30-year career, Gary worked as a Telecommunications Officer in more than 84 Embassies and Consulates around the world. They lived in 11 countries, including Saudi Arabia, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Thailand, Morocco, Ethiopia, South Korea, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Iraq, India, Pakistan, Australia, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Malaysia, Philippines, Mongolia, England, Germany, Turkey, Greece, Algeria, Libya, Sudan, Israel, Syria and Jordan. During his tenure, Gary received 23 Exceptional Performance Awards, 2 Meritorious Unit Citations and 2 Special Recognition War Zone Awards; alongside numerous DTSPPO and Department of State honors.

While Gary was passionate about his work accomplishments (a career with the CIA is unlike any other), he was also very active in his children's lives and spent innumerable hours volunteering as a Boy Scout Troup leader as well as a baseball, softball, basketball, weight training and track coach. Gary loved all Huskers sports but especially football and women's volleyball. He claims to

have not missed any of his beloved Husker football games since 1994; many times watching or listening to them on his computer at 3 in the morning. Gary was an avid golfer and enjoyed working with his wife remodeling their houses. They had planned to spend their retirement flipping houses, golfing, and spoiling their grandchildren.

After almost 33 years serving his country as a dedicated Patriot overseas, Gary was thrilled to finally move back home to Grand Island in 2018.

Gary enhanced the lives of every person he met and he will be missed by many. Gary was greeted in heaven by his dad, Lino; his mother and father-in-law Sandi & Jack Schlueter; his brother, Mark; his brother-in-law, Gerry Jones; his very good friend Steve Simmonds; his grandparents, several aunts, uncles and cousins. Those he has entrusted to keep his memories alive on earth are his loving wife of 33 years, Stephanie; his children Nichole (Logan) Hawk and John Brennan Peace; his beloved grandchildren, Kaedance, Owen, Eleanor and Bennett Hawk; his mother Barbara Peace, his brother Terry (Vonnie) Peace; his sister Debbie Jones; sisters-in-love Jackie (Joe) Liske and Jennifer (Brad) Wieck; his many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and numerous friends here in Grand Island and around the world.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 6. 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
2929 S Locust St
Grand Island, NE 68801
(308) 398-2929
allfaiths@giallfaiths.com
<https://www.giallfaiths.com/>

Rosary

JAN 6. 2:30 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

All Faiths Funeral Home
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Service

JAN 6. 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM (CT)

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Tribute Wall



“ *All Faiths Funeral Home created a Gary Peace Funeral Service in memory of Gary Lino Peace*



All Faiths Funeral Home - January 06, 2023 at 03:30 PM



“ *Gary Lino Peace*

October 08, 2023 at 11:02 PM



“ *I was just a little girl in pre-k/kindergarten when I knew Gary. Now I'm in my twenties. Even though I was very young and unable to grasp everything, I still remember him. He used to come say hi to me and my sister when we were on base. He'd always offer us candy bars and talked to us. He was such a sweet soul and caring man. I'll always remember you mister candy man. May your beautiful soul Rest In Peace.*

Lexcy B - January 09, 2023 at 08:43 PM



“ Gary and I met over twenty years ago. He was my OIC for my first assignment in Morocco. Gary loved being an OIC, and referred it as the best job in the world. He was more than willing to share his knowledge, helping me to develop my skills as a communicator. Even mentoring me to become an OIC, to be part of the few to serve in the best job in the world.

Being my first time overseas, and single, Gary and his family was a big part of my life. Opening their home to me, making me always feel welcome, and like family. I am so honored to be part of Gary and Steph life, you could always be yourself around them, and talk to them about anything. Yes, anything, especially Seth.

This even led to me telling Steph, I loved her like a “mom”, after immediately being punched, she quickly corrected me, “like a sister, a pretty, younger sister!” You got to love her!

Gary really enjoyed being in Morocco, and would joke with me saying it took him four assignments to get there. Since this was my first assignment, it was all downhill from here. Once again, he was correct, but it was him and his family, that Morocco my best assignment ever.

I will miss Gary very much, and my heart goes out to Steph, and the family. I wishing you peace and comfort in this difficult time.

Larry McFarland

Larry McFarland - January 06, 2023 at 09:41 AM

AH

“ I met Gary and Stephanie at my first post - Jakarta. Gary and Stephanie made the sometimes overwhelming and unfamiliar location seem a little more like home.

Gary was always smiling, always helpful, had an outstanding work ethic, and was from the Midwest (bonus!).

My condolences to Stephanie and the Peace family.

Amy Duray Hielen

Amy Duray Hielen - January 05, 2023 at 10:08 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gary Lino Peace.



January 05, 2023 at 08:39 AM

TW

“ I was a classmate of Gary at Knickrehm elementary and I am happy to hear he had such a wonderful life.

Tim Walker - January 05, 2023 at 04:24 AM

BH

“ Gary was a funny and interesting man, and he dearly loved Steph and his children. My wife and I were privileged to be Gary and Stephanie's sponsors for their arrival at one post, and in my rush to get to the airport to pick them up, I forgot the cardboard sign with their names on them. Feeling like an idiot, as the passengers deplaned, I stood there with my hand held up over my head in a "Peace sign" out of desperation. Almost every Japanese tourist returned my gesture, and most non-Japanese scowled at me. But Gary and Steph walked right up to me and said "you must be Bob!". I thought "here is a bright and witty couple!"

Their first few months at post was no fun, with torrential rains that forced them to actually use a canoe to leave their apartment a few times, but they settled right in.

The illness that took Gary from us was difficult and complex, and he was not expected to last very long, so it was with great joy that I saw Gary personally beat the odds against him over and over for years. As a survivor of a (much less significant) illness, I talked with Gary a few times about being ill, and we discussed treasuring every day like it was the last. Gary told me that the illness gave him clarity about how blessed he was to be with his family, and that he would never take a moment for granted. And I am sure he did not.

With my prayers for his everlasting rest in the bosom of God.

Bob Harvey

Bob Harvey - January 03, 2023 at 01:46 PM



“ *Rainbow Of Remembrance Spray was purchased for the family of Gary Lino Peace.*



January 03, 2023 at 01:29 PM

RG

“ I have such fond memories of Gary! He and Steph arrived in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia on their first overseas tour the summer of 1990. Not knowing what to expect, the two of them jumped right in like they had been doing this all their lives! The timing of their arrival couldn't have been better as we experienced the invasion of Kuwait by Saddam Hussein and were immediately thrown into operation Desert Shield. Gary was such a welcome addition to the team as we struggled through 24/7 operations for months up to the combat operation Desert Storm! Between trying to make sure the commutations center was running flawlessly around the clock, processing reams and reams of reporting, demands being put upon us hourly, and just the general fever pitch of the war effort, Gary's exceptionally pleasant disposition and willingness to do whatever was necessary, made my life as OIC so much easier. What made Gary's presence even better was the fact that he and Steph were obviously a very strong team, loving life and having a great time no matter where they were or what they were doing. It was an unbeatable combination.

On the lighter side, I had to occasionally pull Gary's chain on his writing. With all the required reporting during this historical event, I frequently had Gary write up reports for Hqs in Washington. I'm not sure to this day if he just did it to see if I'd catch it, but he would insert whole sentences with no verbs! I had to laugh when I saw it and would pass it back to him with a chuckle! Loved his sense of humor!

After the Riyadh assignment, I never had the opportunity to work with Gary again. But we stayed in touch, and I would have welcomed another assignment with him anywhere! His passing is such a huge loss for our small community; he will be sorely missed! My sincerest condolences to Steph, Nicole, Brennan and the family.

Rick Gale

Rick Gale - January 02, 2023 at 05:31 PM

DJ

My wife, Ronda, and I replaced Gary and Stephanie in Riyadh in 1992. While he and Stephanie had already departed prior to our arrival, I had heard I had big shoes to fill. Not quite sure if I lived up to those expectations but they left a lasting impression in the embassy community. My condolences to Stephanie and all the Peace family.

Dave Johnson

Dave Johnson - January 03, 2023 at 10:54 AM