



Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.

March 31, 1944 - April 11, 2026

It is with deep sorrow that Mrs. Sara Sawyer Shepherd and her family announce the death of her beloved husband, Mr. Gerald Lee "Shep" Shepherd, Sr., 82.

Mr. Shepherd entered into rest on Saturday, April 11, 2026. The Directors of Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home & Crematory are caring for the family.

A funeral service to honor his life will be held at 11 o'clock on Wednesday, April 15, 2026, in Lakeview Baptist Church, with The Rev. Ken Hughes officiating. A private burial will be held at Fort Jackson National Cemetery. The family will receive friends immediately following the service at Lakeview Baptist Church.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his honor to Lakeview Baptist Church, 202 Lakeview Blvd, Hartsville, SC 29550, or the charity of one's choosing.

Mr. Shepherd was born on Friday, March 31, 1944, in Wise, VA. He is the son of the late Rev. James Herndon Shepherd and the late Alma Combs Shepherd. He was a dedicated military man who made many friends in his lifetime. He was dedicated to his family, especially his wife, Sara.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sara Sawyer Shepherd; son Lee Shepherd Jr.; daughter, Amy Shepherd Barefoot (Stacy); stepdaughter, Wendy O'Connell (Peter); stepson, Derrick Wilson; brother, Freddie Shepherd; sister, Joyce Miles, and Elaine Smith; grandchildren, Zachery James, Randall James, Justin Raines, Courtney Barefoot, Helen O'Connell, Finn O'Connell, and Patrick O'Connell; great-grandchildren, Ollie Drew, Oakley Raines; several nieces and nephews who loved him dearly.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his brother, Edward Shepherd.

Gerald loved people. He would always part ways saying, "I love you!" He also loved fishing and hunting, but mostly he loved the Lord and his family.

Cemetery Details

Fort Jackson National Cemetery

4170 Percival Rd.
Columbia, SC 29229

Events

Details are pending.

Tribute Wall



“ *Brown - Pennington - Atkins Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 14 at 03:06 PM

TJ

Rest in peace my friend ♥

Trena Jones - April 15 at 05:45 AM

PB

“ *Phyllis Driggers Braddock lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*

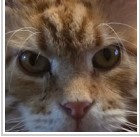


Phyllis Driggers Braddock - April 21 at 07:48 PM

MC

“ *All my love to you Sara and family.*

Myra Cranford - April 21 at 12:46 PM



“ *Uncle Gerald was one of the best men I have ever known, he worshipped the lord, and My aunt Sarah. I remember countless nights he made time for myself, and my cousin, we would play cards, drink coffee and smoke cigarettes, him and Aunt Sarah helped me navigate through some of my hardest times in life. I regret not staying closer to them.*

Trey Sawyer - April 20 at 11:42 AM

KL

“ *Sara, so sorry to hear of the loss of your husband. My prayers are with you today and the days to come. Kathy Lawhon*

Kathy Lawhon - April 16 at 10:12 PM

LA

“ *Louise Atkinson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Louise Atkinson - April 15 at 04:53 PM

RD

“ *Ray And Oletta Deese lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Ray and Oletta Deese - April 15 at 01:55 PM

SF

“ Sara and Family, Gerald was such a fun person to talk to. He would have you laughing about something. Such a good man, and he loved the Lord. He will be missed by all that knew him. Praying for his family.



Steve and Gail Funderburk - April 15 at 10:14 AM

SH

“ Sandra And Larry Huggins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Sandra and Larry Huggins - April 14 at 09:49 PM

FG

“ Frances GRIGGS lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Frances GRIGGS - April 14 at 07:25 PM

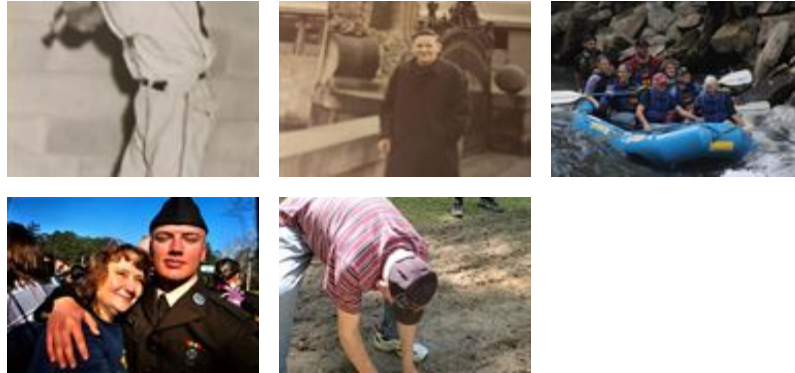
AP

“ Sara, I'm so sorry to hear about Gerald. You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.

Angelia Pennington - April 14 at 04:14 PM



“ 50 files added to the album LifeTributes



Brown-Pennington-Atkins Funeral Home - April 14 at 03:02 PM

DD

“ So sorry for the loss of Gerald, may God give you peace and comfort in this time. My love, thoughts and prayers are all of you.

Dale Davis - April 14 at 02:50 PM

PJ

“ To Gerald's family: God's presence and strength be with you as you journey this time.
Phyllis Johnson (daughter of Gertrude Shepherd Johnson)



Phyllis Johnson - April 14 at 02:47 PM

CP

“ Chandler Peel lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Chandler Peel - April 14 at 11:20 AM

BW

“ Bobby And Sue Wilkerson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Bobby and Sue Wilkerson - April 14 at 09:19 AM

ES

“ Effie Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Effie Smith - April 14 at 08:05 AM

CN

“ Sarah and Family, we are so sorry to hear about Gerald. I served with him in the National Guard where we first became good friends. Praying for everyone during the time. RIP my fellow Soldier For Life.



Chris and Rhonda Norton - April 13 at 09:27 PM

LS

“ Lavonde Smith lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Lavonde Smith - April 13 at 09:14 PM



“ *He was a neat and kind fella we had been friends for a long time my prayers go out to Sara and family*



Sylvia Jordan - April 13 at 09:05 PM

KE

“ *Kaye Ewing lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Kaye Ewing - April 13 at 07:35 PM

RD

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Rhonda Dixon - April 13 at 06:54 PM

GO

“ *My friend Gerald Shepard, I've known him ever since my Cousin Buddy Hatchell was in the National guard there. He will be missed.*



Grady O'Neal - April 13 at 06:25 PM

AK

“ Ann King lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Ann King - April 13 at 06:20 PM

AB

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Amy Barefoot - April 13 at 06:02 PM

AB

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Amy Barefoot - April 13 at 05:44 PM

CH

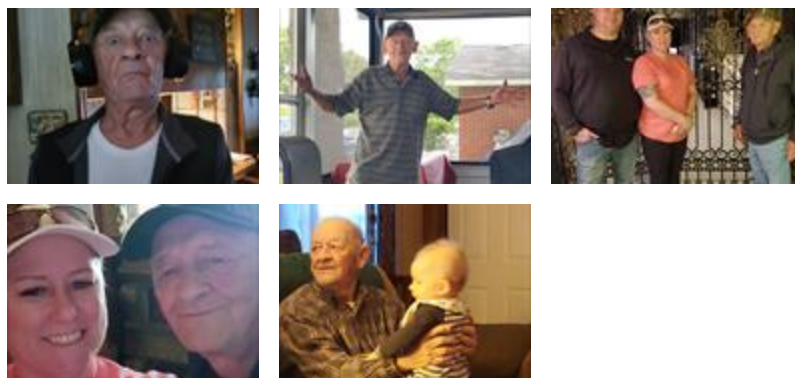
“ Always a delight to see and talk to Sara and Gerald at the auction.



Connie Hatfield - April 13 at 05:44 PM

AB

“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Amy Barefoot - April 13 at 05:40 PM

JW

“ Pleasure to serve with Gerald Shepherd for many years. Prayers up for the family.



Jim Watson - April 13 at 05:10 PM

CS

“ Sara and family, please know you have my heart and prayers in Gerald's homegoing. I Thess. 4:13 says we mourn, but not as those who have no hope.

Clyde Smith - April 13 at 04:57 PM

MS

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. I didn't know and I send my condolences. Gerald was very special to me.



Myrtle Stokes - April 13 at 03:46 PM

RD

“ Aunt Sara, there are so many memories of Uncle Gerald growing up. He will truly be missed. □



Rhonda and Jack Dixon - April 13 at 03:26 PM

RY

“ I sure will miss my friend Gerald. Prayers for the family.



Rex Yarborough - April 13 at 03:15 PM

MS

“ Mike And Pat Sparrow lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Mike and Pat Sparrow - April 13 at 03:05 PM

NG

“ Nell Gainey lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Nell Gainey - April 13 at 02:46 PM

VH

“ Thoughts and prayers go out to the family. Very nice person with a gentle soul



Verna A Hopkins - April 13 at 02:14 PM

CC

“ Sara & family so sorry to hear about Gerald passing he was a kind an sweet man I will miss him talking a nd cutting up at the auction My thoughts and prayers go with you in the days ahead. GOD Bless.



Carol Camp - April 13 at 01:49 PM


JS

“ Jean Stratton lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Jean Stratton - April 13 at 01:46 PM

MS

“ My sweet Uncle Gerald  I love you, I salute you and thank you for taking such good care of Aunt Sara all these years! You were her perfect mate and how blessed we all were to witness your love and dedication to each other.

MONA K SAWYER - April 13 at 01:27 PM

AM

“ Al And Sheila Mullis lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.



Al and Sheila Mullis - April 13 at 01:12 PM

AM

Gerald was such a good friend to us. We will miss him, especially Al. Sending love and prayers to Sarah and family.

Al and Sheila Mullis - April 13 at 01:14 PM

CB

“ God blessed me to give me an uncle like him. He taught me so much and I will miss him dearly. He is with the lord and preparing the way for the rest of us. God bless

Christopher Browder - April 13 at 12:54 PM

MM

“ *Heaven received a true angel. He was a wonderful man, uncle, husband, father, friend, and grandfather. He will be missed and remembered in our hearts. We are sending all our love to Aunt Sara and family.*

Mac and Jennifer McRimmon - April 13 at 12:26 PM

MM

“ *Mac And Jennifer McRimmon lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Mac and Jennifer McRimmon - April 13 at 12:23 PM

WO

“ *Wendy O'Connell sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Wendy O'Connell - April 13 at 11:58 AM

WO

“ *Wendy O'Connell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Wendy O'Connell - April 13 at 11:58 AM

WO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Wendy O'Connell - April 13 at 11:57 AM

WO

Papa helps Mama get ready for church

Wendy O'Connell - April 13 at 11:58 AM

KM

What a beautiful and touching photo of them both.

kathi mccarn - April 13 at 12:37 PM

MM

Precious Love....

Mac and Jennifer McRimmon - April 13 at 04:29 PM

WO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



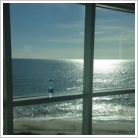
Wendy O'Connell - April 13 at 11:47 AM

CL

“ *Cristie Lavergne lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



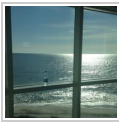
Cristie Lavergne - April 13 at 11:37 AM



“ *Bill Stokes sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Bill Stokes - April 13 at 11:32 AM



Fly High my friend

Bill Stokes - April 13 at 11:31 AM

SH

“ *Sam & Crystal Hopkins lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



Sam & Crystal Hopkins - April 13 at 11:25 AM

GK

“ *George Kelly lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Lee Shepherd Sr.*



George Kelly - April 13 at 11:05 AM