



## Elmer Gidewall

October 23, 1942 - August 13, 2020

Elmer Erik Gidewall, 77, of Travelers Rest, SC, went home to be with the Lord on Thursday, August 13, 2020.

Elmer grew up in Worth, Illinois, and was the son of the late Erik G. Gidewall and Florence E. Gidewall. He received a Masters Degree in Health Sciences Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1987. He served as Director of Environmental Services at Shriners Hospitals for Children for eighteen years. His home church was Christ Fellowship of Travelers Rest, 6440 Old Buncombe Road, Greenville, SC 29609.

He was a lifelong Chicago Cubs fan and was proud of his Swedish heritage.

He also served in the United States Air Force during the Vietnam War era.

Elmer is survived by his wife of forty-six years, Mary Ann Gidewall; one daughter, Elizabeth Sizemore (Bobby); two sons Erik Gidewall, and Edward Gidewall (Jessica); one brother Kenneth Gidewall (Carolyn); and four beloved grandchildren. He was loved by many other relatives and friends whom he considered family.

All his life Elmer was a man of deep faith in Christ. Recently he said, "The only thing that matters is having Jesus Christ as your Savior. Nothing else matters." He had a great sense of humor and instilled in his children and others the importance of having strong faith and a good work ethic.

To celebrate Elmer's life, a memorial service will be held Saturday, August 22, 2020, at 2:00 P.M. at Christ Fellowship of Travelers Rest. Because of COVID-19, the family requests that anyone who wants to participate is welcome to

view the service online. For the few attending, the family requests appropriate precautions and social distancing.

The family would like to thank loved ones for the kindness, love, and prayers shared during this time.

In lieu of flowers, please send a memorial gift to one of Elmer's favorite ministries: Christ Fellowship of Travelers Rest; (mailing address P. O. Box 1362, Travelers Rest, SC 29690) Kids Alive International, (2507 Cumberland Drive, P.O. Box 2117, Valparaiso, IN 46384-2117) Shriners Hospital for Children. (950 West Faris Road, Greenville, SC 29605) Salvation Army, (417 Rutherford Street, Greenville, SC 29609).

# Previous Events

## Service

AUG **22**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Christ Fellowship of Travelers Rest  
6440 Old Buncombe Road  
Greenville, SC

# Tribute Wall

KR

“ *Elmer....such a kind and gentle man! When I went to work at Shriners for him I knew this was where God wanted me. I at the time needed one of God's children to walk with me. His family can always know that they were his Greatest Treasures! He will always hold a special place in my heart! Love and Prayers to his Sweet Family. Kathy Robinson*



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**Kathy Robinson** - August 21, 2020 at 03:10 PM

TE

“ *Mr. Elmer was a sweet, kind-hearted man. Whenever we were around him, he was telling a funny story or sharing his faith and wisdom. We look forward to the day we will see him again in heaven.*

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**Todd//Rhonda Edens** - August 19, 2020 at 12:31 PM

TE

“ *Todd & Rhonda Edens lit a candle in memory of Elmer Gidewall*



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**Todd & Rhonda Edens** - August 19, 2020 at 12:06 PM



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Elmer Gidewall.*



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August 19, 2020 at 08:29 AM



“ *Lisa Shockley lit a candle in memory of Elmer Gidewall*



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**Lisa Shockley** - August 18, 2020 at 12:11 PM



“ *Working with Elmer and Mary Ann at Shriners for many years I have fond memories of the kind, soft spoken and humorous man that Elmer was. He always had a smile on his face. Prayers for comfort for Mary Ann and the rest of his family.*  
*Derallin Morrow*

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**Derallin Morrow** - August 17, 2020 at 10:44 AM



*Dear Mary Ann & Children - so sad to read of Elmer's passing. He was a wonderful sweet-hearted man who loved his Creator. He knew the way of salvation & shared it with many during his 'Fulton' years. Sending hugs to you. Steve & Debi Towns*

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**Steve & Debi Towns** - August 25, 2020 at 10:33 PM

LA

“ *My thoughts and prayers are with all the Gidewall family. How wonderful to have the blessed assurance that Elmer is with Jesus and that we all will see him again. But we will miss him during the rest of our time here. Love each of you!* ”

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**Linda Brooks Armstrong** - August 16, 2020 at 04:27 PM

BC

“ *Barbara Conley lit a candle in memory of Elmer Gidewall* ”



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**Barbara Conley** - August 15, 2020 at 02:18 PM

FP

“ *I will always remember Elmer at Shriners Hospital. He was a good Department Manager and fun to work for. Fredda Pennington* ”

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**Fredda Pennington** - August 15, 2020 at 12:38 PM

MM

“ *Elmer believed in doing and serving! He loved coming to my office to get some good coffee every morning. He was a great encourager to me and others. He was a loving teddy bear. My thoughts and prayers for Mary Ann and family whom he loved dearly. May God bless you!* ❤️🙏 ”

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**Mary Marshall** - August 15, 2020 at 11:46 AM

KG

“ I’m Elmer’s older brother, as a big brother I would play practical jokes on him.

We shared a bedroom. One night I came home late and he was sleeping. He had an early morning paper route so I set his clock 15 minutes before he would wake up. When his alarm went off he got up and went downstairs and made a pot of coffee and then went outside to get the papers. When they weren’t there he came back in and looked at the downstairs clock came back to the bedroom and looked at his clock that I had set back to the right time.

At the time I thought this was funny but I’m sure he didn’t think so. I have since apologized to him for all the nasty things I did to him.

Elmer has a kind heart and a strong faith in Jesus Christ since he was a little boy for this I admired him for.

He has left a hole in my heart and I love him very much.

Hope he can see the Cubs game from heaven.

Ken Gidewall

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Ken Gidewall - August 15, 2020 at 10:59 AM

CH

“ Thinking and Praying for all the Family. I will always remember Elmer for his kind words and support thru the years. It was a great pleasure to work for him and knowing him. Elmer will always hold a special place in my heart.



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Christie Hamby - August 14, 2020 at 08:39 PM

JS

“ So many memories. He was a very special person to me. He even taught me a lot of things, how to catch a baseball, how to deal with kudzu, he even taught me lessons in life like what happens when you throw trash on the side of the road (even though I only followed Edward and Eric on that one) haha I will never forget the night I introduced him to the movie Major League..... well some of it. Loved him like a father and in many ways he was a father figure to me as well as many others. Your memory and stories will live on through us all. Love all of the Gidewall family like my own. We all will be praying for you all.



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**Joshua Scruggs** - August 14, 2020 at 05:47 PM

NS

MARY Ann, so sorry for your loss. Even though I did not know your husband very well I remember you and your family from First Baptist Church in Travelers Rest and I remember the time you sang the solo in Church. I alwAYS Talked to Eric when he worked in the Drug Store. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Nancy Spearman** - August 25, 2020 at 01:03 PM

NS

MARY Ann, I am so sorry for your loss. Even though I did not know your husband very well I remember you and your family from First Baptist Church in Travelers Rest and I remember the time you sang the solo in church. I always talked to Eric when he worked in the Drug Store. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.

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**Nancy Spearman** - August 25, 2020 at 01:17 PM