



Jerry Clark Cramer

July 18, 1938 - October 21, 2021

Jerry Clark Cramer passed away on Thursday, October 21, 2021 at the age of 83, after a long and courageous battle with dementia. He was born July 18, 1938 in Wichita Falls, TX to Jean Elizabeth Hodge and Samuel Joseph Cramer. Jerry lived in Electra, TX before moving to Dallas during his elementary school years. Jerry was raised by his grandmother and grandfather, Faye Odessa Cahill and Dr. Samuel Elihu Cramer. He graduated from North Dallas High School in 1956.

After high school he wanted to see the world before going to college, so he joined the US Navy. He spent several years in the Navy aboard the USS Muliphen, based out of Norfolk, VA. His stint in the Navy sent him through the Mediterranean Sea and was a part of the US military blockade around Cuba during the Cuban missile crisis. During his time in the Navy, he earned a two-year electronic technician degree. The Navy was an experience he truly loved. He had such a love for this country and respect for the armed forces.

After the Navy, Jerry began working for Dallas Power and Light. Passionate about helping kids, he enrolled at North Texas State University (now UNT) to become a teacher. He worked his way through college and earned a B.S. in Education in 1968 and a M.S. in Education in 1972.

After college, Jerry was an educator in Dallas from 1968-2002. He taught at Thomas Jefferson High School in Dallas ISD, Sellers Middle School, and J.W. O'Banion Middle School, both in Garland ISD. During his summer breaks as a teacher, he began flipping houses and later began keeping the houses he remodeled as rental properties. He was also briefly a partial owner in a metal fabrication shop in Dallas.

Jerry loved playing sports in his childhood and continued to play softball well into his 70's. As a young man he enjoyed spending time water skiing and camping.

Jerry Cramer is survived by his loving wife Nancy Adams Cramer of 49 years, daughter Susan Whitehurst, sons Travis Whitehurst, Michael Whitehurst, and Steven Cramer (wife

Lisa); grandchildren Andrea Canalito, Christopher Whitehurst, Adam Smedsted, Will Springer, Jessica Springer, and Cody Cramer; and sister Jan Vaughn. He was preceded in death by his daughter in law Jane Saladino, his parents, and his grandparents.

He was a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend whose love for Jesus Christ was evident in everything he did. He always put his family before himself and would go out of his way to help others. He always did the right thing, had a big heart, and had a soft spot for kids and dogs. He was always happy and loved to joke around and give you a hard time.

Funeral services will be at Restland Funeral Home & Memorial Park - Wildwood Chapel, 13005 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX on October 27, 2021 at 1PM and is open to everyone. A reception will be held immediately following the services at the home of Kellam & Emily Colquitt at 12321 Brittany Circle in Dallas, TX.

Cemetery

Events

Restland Cemetery

Dallas, TX, 75243

OCT 27 **Funeral Service** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

Restland Wildwood Chapel
13005 Greenville Ave, Dallas, TX, US, 75243

Comments



“ I worked with Jerry Cramer at Sellers Middle School. On first day of classes, he would go thru his expectations. He was compassionate but demanded respect. He did not tolerate theft, lying and laziness. He chipped in to assist with Angel Tree, clothing for needy and Cheer Fund for hospitalized employees. My favorite quotation from him was , “You can’t run a power tool until you can read a tape measure “. I can still see the disgusted facial expression when a student would hand him a piece of a 2x4 and say something like, “ Sir, It measures 5” and 7 little lines. “. He often covered classes when help was needed. One time I signed out for an annual mammogram scheduled on conference period and set up by district. Being the only other teacher off that period, the principal sent him to the mobile unit to deliver a note indicating my husband had a heart attack at work and was headed to Baylor. Imagine the look of surprise on the mobile staff person’s face when a man knocked and passed her a note to deliver to me. He was one of the most knowledgeable men I’ve met and could easily speak to any parent about every subject. I feel blessed to have worked with him.

Gail Reedy Powell - October 27, 2021 at 09:46 AM



“ Jerry was my absolute favorite teacher growing up of all time! I had him at O'banion Middle School. I took shop class 3 different times just because I liked him so much. When students were not polite he would make the entire class watch Barney The Dinosaur videos so we could learn how to use good manors. He would call the roll military style by last name. He seemed to have superhuman strength in his hands seriously.....all the wood working he did gave him a lot of strength. He would always joke and cut up and make me laugh so hard my side would hurt! He was a great man of many talents. He kinda took me under his wing when I helped him build a computer desk that he made for his home. After I graduated I would still come up to see him a few times and visit, but eventually we lost touch. I later went into college level electronics through his influence. He taught me basically everything I know about machine shop and wood working. He was a great influence on my life and set a great example of how to be in life. I remember when they had the faculty basketball games he was the oldest yet best player on the staff. I often asked around and thought of how he might be doing. Hated to hear he had dementia. I will miss him! To the family I will keep you in prayer for comfort and support during this time. Jerry was a fine Christian man and I know I will see him again one day in heaven. Sincerely, Layne Pegues

Layne Pegues - October 26, 2021 at 04:50 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Jerry Clark Cramer.



October 26, 2021 at 12:44 PM



“ Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant was purchased for the family of Jerry Clark Cramer.



October 26, 2021 at 12:01 PM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Jerry Clark Cramer.



October 26, 2021 at 11:50 AM



“ Tim & Niki Yarbrough, Brady, Ian&Landon purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Jerry Clark Cramer.



Tim & Niki Yarbrough, Brady, Ian&Landon - October 25, 2021 at 08:05 PM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Jerry Clark Cramer.



October 25, 2021 at 07:42 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Jerry Clark Cramer.



October 25, 2021 at 06:32 PM