



## Gary Crocker

August 8, 1933 - September 10, 2021

Gary Z. Crocker, 88, of Topeka, Kansas, passed away Friday, September 10, 2021, at the Brewster Place Health Center.

Gary was born in Topeka on August 8, 1933, the son of Frank and Mildred (Johnston) Crocker. In Gary's younger years he went to Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, Missouri and Kemper Military Academy in Booneville, Missouri, each for two years. Gary was a 1952 graduate of Topeka High School, and then a 1956 graduate of The University of Denver in Denver, Colorado, with a Business Degree.

Gary enlisted in the Army and was on active duty for two years on both the east and west coasts. He then served in the Kansas Army Reserves for 10 more years and finished his career in the military with the rank of Major.

Following active duty, Gary went to work for his father at Crocker Enterprises, taking over as head of the company in 1974 after his father retired. In 1988, when Crocker Enterprises sold to a large land developer, Gary retired and bought a hobby farm in Soldier, Kansas, spending many days working and having fun doing so.

Gary enjoyed traveling the world and was able to experience most of it. While traveling he collected local art and displayed the beautiful pieces in his home

to remind him of his journeys.

Gary is survived by his sister, Bonnie Kay Howard and her husband, Warren, of Topeka; two nephews, Trevor Howard and his wife Lori, and their children Blair and Evan of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Shannon Howard and his wife Kristy, and their children Joshua (Tampa, FL), Madelaine (Lancaster, CA), and Grace of Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

The family thanks the Doctors, Nurses and Staff at St. Francis Hospital, Stormont Vail Hospital, Brewster Place and Midland Care Hospice, for taking such good care of Gary during this trying time.

Visitation will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday, September 17, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Funeral service will be 10 a.m. Saturday at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Memorial Park Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Midland Care Hospice or Brewster Place and sent in care of the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent online to [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Memorial Park Cemetery

3616 SW 6th Street  
Topeka, KS 66606

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 17. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

## Funeral Service

SEP 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home  
2801 SW Urish Road  
Topeka, KS 66614  
(785) 272-7888  
[info@kevinbrennanfamily.com](mailto:info@kevinbrennanfamily.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gary Crocker*



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - September 21, 2021 at 09:06 AM



“ *Gary Crocker*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *My name is Allen Anderson and we lived next door to Gary and Bonnie Crocker, we shared many times together, playing goofy golf at his family dairy and ice cream plant at at 29th and Topeka Blvd. My sister Marilyn Anderson-Lucas shared a lot of fun and celebrated many birthdays together. Our thoughts and prayer goes out to Bonnie and her family Our neighborhood and friends have changed over time. Also we shared with Gary and Bonne the Snyder family of Carol and Robert Snyder in our neighborhood . Allen L. Anderson our email is [allenlanderson@prodigy.net](mailto:allenlanderson@prodigy.net)*

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**Allen L. Anderson** - September 16, 2021 at 11:35 AM

JH

“ To the Crocker family, sorry for your loss of Gary. Gary was a good man and always had a good word to say about anything. He will be missed. RIP Gary.

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**Jim Hinton** - September 15, 2021 at 06:54 AM

AM

“ I knew Gary for years when I'd spend weeks helping to spring clean his condo. He shared so many stories with me about his formative years, his family businesses, his love of travel and his yearly visits to New York to add more items to his vast collection of museum quality collectibles. I used to tease him about his ability to walk out in the winter dressed in sweat shirts and jacket but wearing shorts. He assured me he never felt the cold in his legs! We used to discuss all the mail he received on a regular basis and his support of the Wounded Warriors and other organizations he deemed worthy of his assistance. Over time I learned such a lot from Gary about the changing world and his witness of advances in society. To his sister, Bonnie, and brother-in-law, Warren, my sincere condolences, and also to his nephews. I know that the good memories you all have of Gary will comfort you all over time and he will live on in your hearts. RIP Gary.

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**Anna Chee McNab** - September 14, 2021 at 10:43 PM