



Gary G. Diffley

August 27, 1938 - December 16, 2004

Gary G. Diffley, 66, Topeka, died Thursday, December 16, 2004, while snorkeling on vacation near Honolulu.

Gary was born August 27, 1938, in Wamego, the son of Edward and Edna Muckenthaler Diffley. He grew up and attended schools in Paxico, graduating from high school in 1956. He earned his bachelor's degree in physical education from Kansas State University in 1960. On December 23, 1978, Gary and Judy High were married in Springfield, Missouri. Gary had been employed by John Wiley and Sons, Inc., a publishing company, since 1973 until his retirement in 2000. Since his retirement, Gary has enjoyed golfing with friends, has been an avid reader and, loved all spectator sports.

He was a member of Christ the King Catholic Church, the Knights of Columbus, the YMCA, the KSU Alumni Association and Catbackers Club, and the John P. Welsh Investment Club.

Gary leaves to cherish his memory his wife, Judy; his father-in-law, Horace High; his brother-in-law, John High; his sister-in-law, Elaine; his niece, Allison; his Uncle Sam Muckenthaler, San Diego; his Aunt Margaret Tveten, Bothell WA; and a host of close-knit cousins and many friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Mr. Diffley will lie in state from 2 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd. Visitation will be from 5 to 8 with a prayer service at 7 p.m. at the funeral home.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Christ the King Church at 10 on Friday. Burial will follow in Newberry Catholic Cemetery, Newberry, Kansas.

The family suggests memorial contributions to The Diffley Basketball Scholarship or the Office Administration Leadership Scholarship, both in care of the Washburn Endowment Association, 1700 SW College, Topeka KS 66621; or to Christ the King Church, 5973 SW 25th St, Topeka KS 66614.

Tribute Wall



“ Gary G. Diffley

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ Judy - So sorry to hear about Gary. Word was just shared with the Board. You will be in our thoughts & prayers through this time.
Marilyn Jones

Marilyn Jones - January 29, 2005 at 01:22 PM



“ Gary G. Diffley

Marily - January 29, 2005 at 01:20 PM



“ Judy

I grieve with you in the sudden loss of Gary. You will on my daily prayer list. 1 Thess 4:13-18
Dave

Dave DePue - January 05, 2005 at 05:05 PM



“ Judy,
I was so shocked and saddened to hear about Gary's death. What an awful shock for you and your family. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.

Linda

Linda Spaulding - January 03, 2005 at 12:04 PM

ED

“ *Judy, we are saddened by Gary's death. Know that our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*

Ed & Susan

Ed & Susan Dillinger - December 30, 2004 at 08:32 PM

DM

“ *Dear Judy, I just read my email today and heard about Gary. I am so sorry to hear this. I am sending you lots of love and good energy and will come look you up when we get back on campus. I have a big warm hug waiting for you. Know that you are loved!*

Diane McMillen - December 29, 2004 at 07:34 PM

DM

“ *Dear Judy,*

Diane McMillen - December 29, 2004 at 07:30 PM

JF

“ *So sorry to hear of the loss of your husband -- you didn't get the preparation time that I did when my husband died in June of this year -- either way, it's not easy. Between your church and your friends it makes life a bit easier. Just be sure to ask for any help that you might need -- people want to help but sometimes don't know exactly how. My prayers are with you. Jo Fiegenbaum (from WU Education Dept)*

Jo Fiegenbaum - December 29, 2004 at 11:14 AM

PA

“ Judy, I wish I could give you a huge hug right now. The short time i knew Gary, I knew he was blessed. I pray to the good Lord to keep you safe, comfort you and give you strenght. I also thank him for blessing me with a new friend for a lifetime. Much Aloha....
Paulanne

Paulanne Asing - December 28, 2004 at 01:16 PM

MB

“ Judy, it was my pleasure to help you through the few days following Gary's death. I will remember you two as the couple with inviting expressions that welcomed me to join you on the day we met. You are a special friend and have a lasting place in my heart. Please know that I am here for you.

Melloney Brown - December 27, 2004 at 02:47 PM

SE

“ We are out of town and just heard of Gary's death today. Jim has enjoyed visiting with Gary at the New China Inn several times recently.

We are so saddened by the news and will be thinking of you, Judy.

Sarah and Jim Eck

Sarah and Jim Eck - December 25, 2004 at 10:04 PM

JB

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy during this very difficult time. I am so sorry to hear about the loss of your husband. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Jeanne Bruna - December 23, 2004 at 04:25 PM

JS

“ Judy, oh, how my heart aches for you at this time. You are in my prayers. May God put His arms around you and comfort you.
June

June Smith - December 23, 2004 at 01:15 PM

VF

“ Judy, Ron and I are saddened to hear about Gary's death. We know in our hearts, Gary is in a wonderful, peaceful place. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. With Deepest Sympathy. Vicki and Ron Francis

Vicki Francis - December 23, 2004 at 12:17 PM

JG

“ Judy - As you move through this difficult time please know my thoughts and prayers are with you. Your loss is great. May it comfort you to know others share your sorrow. Peace be with you.

Jan Graham - December 23, 2004 at 12:14 PM

LM

“ Judy, you are in my thoughts and prayers at this very tragic time. My God be with you.

Lori Mello - December 23, 2004 at 09:55 AM

VD

“ Judy, It is sad news to learn about your your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. May it bring you comfort to know that many caring thoughts are with you in you sadness.

Vi Dreyer - December 23, 2004 at 09:11 AM

BC

“ Judy - Peggy and I read about Gary and are saddened about the news. We have enjoyed sitting by you two at the Washburn basketball games over the years. We will pray that you will find the peace and comfort that only God can give.

Bill and Peggy Caton

Bill and Peggy Caton - December 22, 2004 at 10:38 PM

LB

“ I would just like to let Mrs. Judy Diffley, a friend and former instructor know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during your time of loss. To let you know that the LORD will give you the strength and pull you through your time of loss.

My prayers will be with you Mrs. Diffley.

Always your friend.

Lydia

Lydia Baez - December 22, 2004 at 05:35 PM

RC

“ Judy - I was so sorry to hear about Gary's passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time.

Rita Cox (former WU ticket manager)

Rita Cox - December 22, 2004 at 02:51 PM

JH

“ *Judy, The Heartland Chapter of IAAP expresses our sorrow for the death of your husband Gary. He will be greatly missed and I want you to know that you and your family in our prayers at this time. You will be lifted up in prayer at our meetings, too.
God Bless! Janet Haag, President of Heartland IAAP Chapter, EMporia, KS*

Janet Haag - December 22, 2004 at 01:10 PM

LF

“ *Dear Judy, we are saddened about Gary's death but his ready smile and quips lives on in our memories. He was truly a dear friend for some 60 years. He will be missed. Larry, Jane Hesse & Family*

Larry,Jane Hesse & Family - December 22, 2004 at 10:34 AM

BW

“ *Judy,*

Was shocked to hear the news of Gary's death. Please know we are all thinking of you and your family and our prayers will be with yours.

Betty White

Betty White - December 21, 2004 at 06:04 PM

LI

“ *Judy, I am so sorry about Gary. You are in my thoughts & prayers. And if you need anything, just let me know. I am here for whatever you need.*

Lisa - December 21, 2004 at 01:39 PM

TE

“ Dear Dr. Diffley,

Please accept my deepest sympathy. I was so sorry to hear about the tragic loss of your husband. My family and I will be praying for you.

Theresa Escobar - December 20, 2004 at 11:01 PM

JA

“ *Judy, I was so sorry to hear about your husband. My thoughts and prayers are with you.*

Julie Adams - December 20, 2004 at 09:43 PM

RL

“ *Dear Judy,*

There are just no words to tell you how saddened I was to hear about Gary. May God hold you in the palm of his hand through the days and months ahead.

Rhonda Lassiter - December 20, 2004 at 11:57 AM

AH

“ *Judy, Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this very difficult time.*

Angela Horn - December 20, 2004 at 11:21 AM

VO

“ *Please accept my condolences during your time of loss. I'm so sorry, we'll be praying for you.*

Victoria O'Dell - December 19, 2004 at 10:04 PM

LC

“ *Judy*

When I heard about Gary I felt so bad for you. You have my prayers in this difficult time.

Lorie Conklin - December 19, 2004 at 08:09 PM

LA

“ *Judy, so sorry to hear about Gary. I'll be thinking about you and your dad.*

Lyn Abercrombie - December 19, 2004 at 03:23 PM