



Phil Gilman

January 31, 1927 - June 27, 2019

Phil Gilman, 92, Topeka, Kansas, passed away June 27, 2019, at Brookdale Topeka Memory Care Facility.

Phil was born January 27, 1927, in Topeka, the son of John and Frances Vollrath Gilman. He graduated from Topeka High School and received his Civil Engineer Degree from KU after serving two years in the United States Army during WWII. Phil spent one year in Okinawa. He worked for KDOT for 35 years. Phil met Elizabeth, the love of his life, on the Saturday Morning Bike Ride on July 20, 1974. He planned the first Cottonwood 200 Bike Ride. Phil helped with the routing of the first Biking Across Kansas in 1975. Phil proposed to Elizabeth in Sterling, halfway across the first BAK. They were married on the porch of the Ward-Meade Home on July 20, 1975. They went on many bike trips, seven times on BAK, from Topeka to Kalamazoo, Cape Cod, Denmark, etc. After retirement, it was time to buy a motor home to visit grandchildren in New Jersey and Texas, as well as the National Parks. They made it to all states except Hawaii. Phil took up photography again and put together many beautiful slide shows.

Phil is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; daughter, Jeanine Roberts (Tom), Flemington, New Jersey; granddaughter, Kerianne Johnson (David), Houston, Texas; grandsons, John and Christian, Topeka, and Josiah, Flemington; step-son, Bill McLeod, Fort Worth, Texas; step-granddaughter, Shayla Beard

(Ricky); and two step-great-granddaughters, Morgan and Reagon, Odessa, Texas. He was preceded in death by his son, John.

Celebration of Phil's life will be 11 a.m. Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at Lowman United Methodist Church, 4101 SW 15th Street, Topeka KS 66604. Phil's body was donated to KU Med Center for Alzheimer Research.

Memorial contributions may be made to Lowman United Methodist Church or Helping Hands Humane Society, 5720 SW 21st Street, Topeka KS 66604.

Previous Events

A Celebration of Life

JUL 17. 11:00 AM (CT)

Lowman United Methodist Church
4400 SW Drury Lane
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ *Phil Gilman*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *What a well written article about Phil!
I will be on our 34th annual trip to the Florida beach, so I will miss the service for Phil.
But wanted you to know I will be thinking about you and praying that all goes well, so you will have a pleasant closing to this chapter of your life!
It is never easy, but you have great memories to boost you through this celebration of your life together!
Fondly,
June McMaster*

June McMaster - July 10, 2019 at 06:44 PM



“ *Sincere sympathy. Sandy Powell*

Sandra Powell - July 04, 2019 at 08:55 AM



Dear Liz, I had a fun time when you two visited me when I volunteered in NM at Bosque del Apache NWR. Love to you, Cousin Donna Mae.

Donna Mae McLean - July 04, 2019 at 01:08 PM



We did too, That was one of our favorite places

Elizabeth Gilman - July 27, 2019 at 07:54 AM

LC

“ *Such a sweet man.
Linda RN ST Croix HOSPICE*



Linda Root Covell - July 03, 2019 at 11:35 AM

JK

“ *Phil was a "one of a kind" person with a variety of talents and hobbies, and shared them with others generously. He will be missed by all who knew him. We send our deepest sympathy to Liz and all the family.*

Janice and Stan Kivett

Janice and Stan Kivett - June 30, 2019 at 05:55 PM

LF

Liz. We have such fond memories of biking with you and Phil. No one could put together a slide show presentation with music like Phil. He was able to take photos of everyone on so many rides. Both of you were such gracious hosts for so many bike events. We will never forget our time with you and Phil.

Lloyd and Bobbie Fleming - June 30, 2019 at 09:08 PM

RK

My grandmother (Winifred Gillman/Reynolds) told me stories about a relative named Phil and another relative named Jack. Not sure if this Phil is the same person she was talkin about but even so, my condolences to the family. One other comment, Rick Kuebler

Rick Kuebler - July 03, 2019 at 05:50 PM

EG

Yes, your grandmother was Phil's aunt. We enjoyed our visits with her

Elizabeth Gilman - July 13, 2019 at 07:23 AM

JK

I still have the picture Phil took of me and Josie, and will always remember his concern and support during Loren's illness. Thankful for such good neighbors over many years.

JoAnn Kemp - July 16, 2019 at 04:32 PM