



Gary Holly

March 19, 1938 - April 20, 2025

Gary Dean Holly (87) of Apex, NC passed away peacefully on Easter Sunday April 20, 2025. He was the son of Lester Robert Holly and Eva Eastman Holly. Gary was born in Waukon Iowa on March 19, 1938. He grew up in Monona Iowa where his father Les managed the Monona Lumber Company. Gary graduated from Monona High School in 1956. His interest in construction led him to Iowa State College to major in Civil Engineering. Following graduation Gary was employed by the US Bureau of Public Roads (currently Federal Highway Administration). Gary worked at multiple locations during his career including San Francisco California, Springfield Illinois, Ames Iowa, Washington DC, Harrisburg Pennsylvania, Hartford Connecticut, and Raleigh North Carolina.

He received his Master of Science Degree from the University of Illinois in 1967. Gary was instrumental in the development of many interstate highways and was the structural engineer on site when Interstate 80 was built over the Mississippi River. Later in his career he specialized in environmental impact statements. He retired from the Federal Highway Administration in 1993.

While working in Washington DC he met a “special” person Gloris Terry King the head registered nurse at Walter Reed Hospital. They married in September 1965. On November 4, 1966 they welcomed their first special joy Constance Joy Holly. Three years later they would welcome their second

special joy Christa Eva Holly. During Gary's employment in Hartford Connecticut the Lord had a special place for Gloris and called her home on February 16, 1977 after a long 7 month battle with cancer.

Gary and his daughters followed his career path and moved to Raleigh North Carolina in 1977. Gary later met another special person Mary (Peggy) Cartwright Sharber and they were married on December 26, 1981.

As construction and woodworking were his passion, Gary enjoyed building their new house in western Wake County. In addition his hobbies included clock building, model railroading, landscaping, and genealogy.

He is preceded in death by his parents, sister Norma Jean Holly (in infancy), and brother Clifford Allen Holly (Korea 1953).

He is survived by his wife of 43 years Peggy Cartwright Holly, 2 daughters Constance (Connie) Holly Parks and husband Mike Parks of Sylva, NC, Christa Eva Holly Barnett and husband John Barnett of Delaware OH, stepson David Sharber and wife Sally Sharber of

Elizabeth City NC and sister Bonnie Holly of Cedar Rapids IA. Grandchildren Taylor Parks, Craig Barnett, Carter Barnett, Jacob Barnett, Caleb Barnett, great granddaughter Autumn Barnett, and several step grandchildren and step great grandchildren.

Service will be at 11AM on Saturday April 26 at Apex United Methodist Church.

In Lieu of flowers donations can be made to Apex United Methodist Church, 100 South Hughes St. Apex, NC 27502.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

APR **26**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Apex United Methodist Church
100 S Hughes St.
Apex, NC 27502

Tribute Wall

CJ

“ Peggy, so sorry to hear about Gary, you are in my prayers.

claire jenkins - April 26, 2025 at 09:19 PM

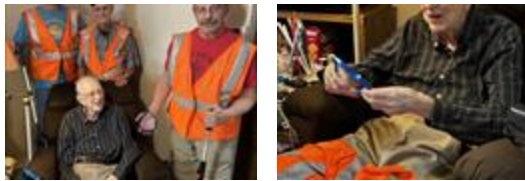
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“ Condolences to the Holly and Sharber Families.

Inez Stephenson - April 24, 2025 at 05:56 PM

PB

“ 2 files added to the album APEXUMC



Pastor Danny Berrier - April 23, 2025 at 11:17 AM

PS

*Peggy,
We are so sorry of learning of Gary. He always had a big smile on his face. I took over his job in the FHWA Raleigh office when he moved to another job. Also was at your wedding some 40 years ago.
Paul & Ann Simon*

Paul Simon - April 27, 2025 at 07:46 AM