



Gerrit Graaf

June 18, 1928 - February 7, 2011

Gerrit de Graaf Gerrit de Graaf, 82, of Ransom Canyon, Texas went to meet his Lord and Savior on February 7, 2011. He was born on June 18, 1928 in Leiderdorp, Netherlands and immigrated to California in 1948. Anna Mae was 14 years old and told her girlfriend about the “cutest green Dutchman” that she’d met at church and she knew she would marry him someday. They married in 1953. Gerrit was a dairyman in California until 1997 when they moved to El Paso, TX then Roswell, NM and most recently, Ransom Canyon, TX. They were active members of every church they attended. At each of those churches, he was likely the choir’s loudest tenor. Gerrit was drafted into the US ARMY in 1951. Shortly after he proposed to Anna Mae, he was sent to serve in the Korean War. He was honorably discharged in 1953 and married his “Annie” that same year. They have been blessed with a family of 48 loved ones. His favorite things were the color yellow, riding bikes, the USA, “McDonald” coffee, writing poems, his Dutch heritage, flying kites, buttermilk, the dairy, singing, planting sunflowers, his kids, grandkids, great grandkids, his Anna Mae and most importantly his Savior, Jesus Christ. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Anna Mae; his 5 children - Gary & Donna de Graaf of Pixley, CA; Debbi and Larry Kelley of Roswell, NM; Brad & Barb Bouma of Ransom Canyon, TX; Jon & Carolyn Veenendaal of Plainview, TX; and Brian & Linda de Graaf of Dexter, NM; 15 grandchildren and soon-to-be 15 great grandchildren. The graveside service will be held at South Park Cemetery in Roswell for family and close friends. A celebration service of his well-lived life

will be held at First Presbyterian Church in Dexter, NM at 2pm on Monday, February 14th, 2011. Pallbearers will be his 10 grandsons. Memorial donations can be made to Gideons of Roswell, "adopt an orphan" through Operation HOPE (operationhopeusa.org), World Vision or the charity of your choice.

Please take a moment to share your thoughts and memories with the family in the online register book at andersonbethany.com. Arrangements are under the direction of Anderson Bethany Funeral Home and Crematory.

Tribute Wall



“ *Gerrit Graaf*

December 29, 2022 at 05:26 PM



“ *Dear de Graaf Family, We are sorry we couldn't attend the funeral, but wanted to offer our sympathies to you and your family. Gerrit had a way of brightening up our day when we would see him riding his bike down our road. Again, sorry for your loss and your family is in our prayers at this time of sadness. Sincerely, The Graves Family*

Graves Family - February 15, 2011 at 02:22 PM



“ *Gerrit always felt like a cousin to me, joining in all the Van Dam activities with joy and enthusiasm. His love for the Lord and his love of life will not be forgotten. My husband Mark and I remember him fondly, especially his visit to us in Utrecht, the Netherlands. Our sympathies to dear cousin Anne Mae and the family always.*

Arlyne Van Dam Sargent - February 15, 2011 at 01:46 PM



“ *I want to give me condolences and sympathies to Anne Mae de Graaf and all our uncle's children, and grand children. Frits, Natasja, Mees and Sil*

Frits Knegt - February 11, 2011 at 05:28 PM

WR

“ *This obituary captures the essence of Gerrit. Beautifully written. I am proud to be related to Gerrit, while not a blood relative, but through his marriage to my cousin Anna Mae. Bless all of you during this difficult time. winnie Roelofsen*

Winnie Roelofsen - February 10, 2011 at 09:00 PM

JK

“ *Dear, lieve Oom Gep we will mis you so mutch. I still cant believe it, left with all the sweet memmories. Dear Tante Anna Mae and all childeren, grand and great grand lots of kracht in this moeilijke tijd toegewenst. Liefs Jacq.*

Jacqueline Knegt - February 10, 2011 at 05:32 PM

RD

“ *Betty and I have such fond memories of Gerrit. What a nice man he was. What joy he must be experiencing now!*

Ryan Diepersloot - February 10, 2011 at 01:30 PM

NT

“ *Austin, I remember your grandfather coming to soccer games. He was a huge fan of yours and just a fun and nice person. My thoughts are with you and your family.
Mrs. Toth*

Nancy Toth - February 09, 2011 at 09:11 PM

MM

“ Great memories of Gerrit, I was honored to be counted as one of his friends. I am praying for comfort for Anna Mae and all of the family in their time of loss. I admired and loved Gerrit for his transparent love of Jesus and his sincere compassion for all people. He was from another generation, one that always practiced the golden rule, that always treated ladies and children with kindness and elders with respect. A generation that prayed regularly and with purpose. An example for all of us. I will miss my friend and look forward to seeing him again one day. Until then, let's keep a song in our hearts and a ready smile for all to see God's love in us.

Mag Martinez - February 09, 2011 at 04:03 PM

JS

“ Many great memories growing up and am blessed to have been able to meet Mr. de Graaf. Many blessings and prayers go out to the family as God covers you with his healing hands and comforting touch. God Bless you all,
Jeff & Jeanette

Jeff Stevens - February 09, 2011 at 12:42 PM