



## Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei

November 9, 1946 - December 23, 2020

Gerald Frederick Mantei was born in Estevan, SK on November 9th, 1946. He was the eleventh of twelve children born to German immigrants Reinhold and Henrietta Mantei, and he grew up farming on the Prairies. Gerald was a happy child, full of mischief and laughter; his love of corny jokes started early.

Born with an innate curiosity to discover how things work and an aptitude for fixing them, Gerald became a heavy duty diesel mechanic. His career took him farther than he expected. In 1979, with his wife, Dianne, and two children, he moved to a large farming operation in Tanzania where, for two years, he shared his knowledge of maintaining farm equipment with local Tanzanians. The large press he custom built during this time was still in operation when his daughter returned to the farm in 2013. Gerald's experience in Tanzania was a highlight of his life.

Gerald married Dianne in 1973 and had four children; Douglas, Rachelle, Jason and Shannon. Many happy memories were made at their home on a farm near Alameda, SK. Gerald demonstrated his love for his children by providing them with all types of motorized vehicles - some custom built: three-wheelers, four-wheelers, motorcycles and ski-doods, not to mention unicycles, tandem bicycles and a boat at White Bear Lake.

When his children reached driving age, there was a never-ending flow of vehicles destined for the junkyard that he restored and made roadworthy once again.

Gerald also had a natural talent for music; he played guitar, accordion and organ all by ear. He encouraged his children to learn and share his love of music by providing them with instruments and lessons of their choice.

In 1991 Gerald retired from farming and the family moved west to High River, AB. One of his endeavours there included opening an oil and lube shop where friends often congregated. Gerald also purchased a Harley-Davidson and spent many happy hours purchasing, fixing and selling used motorcycles. Always generous, he was happy to lend

his Heritage Softail to his daughters for their motorcycle road tests.

Gerald endeared himself to his children's friends and cousins with his light-hearted jokes, his welcoming demeanour and his willingness to help, especially when it came to fixing something.

As the grandfather of seven; Duke, Rocco, Zoey, Ryker, Sloane, James and Kennedy, he continued to use his talent to delight and entertain. Most recently he could be seen riding around on a scooter he had customized (to make faster!) with his youngest granddaughter, Kennedy. Days before he passed away, he fixed a music box for his granddaughter Sloane.

On December 22nd, 2020, after spending the day shovelling mountains of snow, Gerald lay down to rest.

The twinkle in his eye and his laughter after the telling of one of his many jokes will be missed.

A funeral mass is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. January 29th, 2021 at St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church, High River with interment to follow at the Highwood Cemetery in High River. As Gerald loved helping people, in lieu of flowers or donations, we ask that you think of him when performing an act of kindness for another.

Gerald Mantei's Funeral Mass will be livestreamed on the St. Francis de Sales You Tube Channel link <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL02vHLiqGS8vGGqD3YUoYQ>.

Caring for the family is Lyle Reeves Funerals of High River (Craig Snodgrass)  
403.652.4242.

# Comments

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“ A webcast video has been added.



**Lyle Reeves Funerals** - January 29 at 03:00 PM

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“ Dear Aunt Diane and Family,  
I apologize for taking so long to write this as the passing of Uncle Gerald was so sudden and shocking. Growing up, my Mom always pointed to him as being so very successful in everything he did (ex: running businesses, teaching himself to play instruments, being jovial, with the ability to connect deeply with so many people) that she would often point to him as a role model for me to emulate. Gerald was the kind of person who saw a situation and wondered if somehow he could make it better. Can he make it be more efficient, can he create something from nothing using only some tools and only his God given talent and imagination. A true renaissance man in so many ways. I'm a much better person for knowing him and being around him the few times that I was growing up. He will be deeply missed by myself, Kelli and so many others in the community.

**Robert Steidle** - February 03 at 05:34 AM

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“ Gerald Mantei's Funeral Mass will be livestreamed on the St. Francis de Sales YouTube Channel link  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL02vHLiqGS8vGGqD3YUoYQ>.

Friday, January 29th, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

**Lyle Reeves Funerals** - January 28 at 09:46 AM

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“ Condolences to Gerald's family on his passing over to his next life that he is sure to be the entertainer he was to us here. His zest for life was infectious. Farewell Gerald, God is blessing!

**Marilyn Ulriksen** - January 01 at 02:05 PM

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“ Remembering Gerald with a smile - my sincere condolences to his boys whom I consider good friends . Tom Codd

**Tom Codd** - December 31, 2020 at 07:32 PM

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“ Our sincerest condolences. Sending love and peace to you all.



**Candace and Jason Gillanders** - December 31, 2020 at 01:44 PM

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“ He was always such a gentleman. He will be missed by all who knew him. My deepest condolences to the Mantei family at the time. Keep the memories of Gerald close to your heart.



**Anna-Marie Plante** - December 31, 2020 at 12:58 PM

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“ Our love and sympathy to the Mantei family! We have such good memories of time spent with him and Dianne. Gerald helped us with combining a few years ago. Each morning he would arrive in a fresh white shirt and clean the combine cab carefully before beginning. He was a wealth of knowledge, a hard worker, and his wit and humour always made things fun.

**Harj and Marilyn Hari** - December 31, 2020 at 12:17 PM

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“ 4 files added to the album Tribute Pictures



**Robert Steidle** - December 30, 2020 at 10:39 PM

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“ I am so sorry to hear of Gerald's passing. I have so many great memories of our time together in Tanzania. Cherish all your great memories.



**faye bradley** - December 30, 2020 at 10:25 PM

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“ We well remember Gerald's sense of humour. We have many memories of companionship enjoyed with him and the family as next door neighbours at Setchet in Tanzania. Thinking of you all at this and time, and sending prayers and hugs.

Craig and Angela Gardiner

**Angela Gardiner** - December 30, 2020 at 07:01 PM

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“ Sending love to the Mantei family! Gerald's smile and kindness will certainly be missed!

**Janelle Kennedy** - December 30, 2020 at 05:25 PM

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“ Our deepest condolences Manthei family. May his loving soul rest in peace.



**Magreth Matari** - December 30, 2020 at 02:54 PM

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“ Our deepest condolences to all the Mantei Family



**Lahny & Murray Boyce** - December 30, 2020 at 02:12 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Dianne and the whole Mantei family.

**Bruce Lawrence** - December 30, 2020 at 01:33 PM

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“ Our deepest condolences to the entire Mantei family.



**Matt & Crystal Leeferink** - December 30, 2020 at 12:11 PM

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“ 17 files added to the album Tribute Pictures



**Rachelle Mantei** - December 30, 2020 at 09:52 AM

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“ Brianne & Tim Fredell lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



**Brianne & Tim Fredell** - December 30, 2020 at 02:09 AM

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“ Thinking of your family at this time and sending everyone Hugs



**Jennifer Avery** - December 29, 2020 at 11:06 PM

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“ Sincere condolences to all the family!



**Ron & Ann Weston** - December 28, 2020 at 09:28 PM

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“ We are so sorry to hear of Gerald's passing. Gerald was always a pleasure to talk to and we enjoyed his warmth and great sense of humour. Our thoughts are with the family at this sad time. David & Karen Dempsey

**David and Karen Dempsey** - December 28, 2020 at 09:25 PM

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“ This is such sad news. Our sincere condolences to Gerald's family on his unexpected passing. He was always our favourite uncle with a brilliant, goofy sense of humour and a love for all things mechanical. There was nothing he couldn't fix or build. Gerald, you will be missed.

Doreen and family



**Doreen Steidle** - December 27, 2020 at 02:22 PM

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“ I am saddened to hear of your passing. We've had so many good times (and a few bad times) but it's the good ones that are remembered. The 'Friday night socials' in 'the shop' . Good times were had. You will be missed by so many. My condolences to your family and friends.

**Darryl Peterson** - December 26, 2020 at 03:20 PM

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“ Sheila Storoschuk lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



**Sheila Storoschuk** - December 26, 2020 at 11:50 AM

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“ Our deepest sympathy to all the Mantei family. We have great memories of our visits to the farm with the family and enjoyed your Dads sense of humour. RIP Gerald.

**Joanne & Jerry Zatylny** - December 26, 2020 at 09:36 AM

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“ RIP Gerald.



**Linda Rowlands** - December 25, 2020 at 08:08 PM

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“ Eleanor And Gord Decker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



**Eleanor and Gord Decker** - December 25, 2020 at 03:31 PM

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“ I'm so sorry to hear of your passing, I remember borrowing your boat to go water skiing and knee boarding with Doug... hanging out at your house was an adventure. Your impact will be felt by all of your kids and the best parts of you will be carried in legacy through them. Sending love to all.



**Jody Crawford** - December 25, 2020 at 12:15 PM

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“ Gerry And Glenda Cutforth lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



**Gerry and Glenda Cutforth** - December 25, 2020 at 11:48 AM

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“ Ed & Leslie Wendt lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



**Ed & Leslie Wendt** - December 25, 2020 at 11:36 AM

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“ I'm am so sorry to hear of Gerald's passing. My condolences to the family during such a difficult time



**Donna Gregg** - December 25, 2020 at 10:31 AM

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“ Judy Culp lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



Judy Culp - December 24, 2020 at 09:36 PM

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“ Our sincere condolences to the Mantei family. Hour dad will be missed. Sending love.



Ryan Ikebuchi - December 24, 2020 at 09:12 PM

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“ Yes, I would like to add my condolences with the passing of Gerald. He went out of his way to help me out during harvest, just the combine problems alone .....what a blessing!

My deepest sympathy to his family at this time.....Gerald ...R.I.P.

Bert Ruitenschild

Bert Ruitenschild - December 24, 2020 at 06:29 PM

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“ Rosemary Derbecker lit a candle in memory of Mr. Gerald Frederick Mantei



**Rosemary Derbecker** - December 24, 2020 at 04:57 PM

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“ Gerald. You were like my second Dad growing up. You always treated me just like your own and I will never forget that. You will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences to the entire Mantei family. Love Terry Vicente and family

**Terry Vicente** - December 24, 2020 at 04:00 PM