



Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg

July 9, 1947 - July 16, 2025

Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg, 78, of Benton Township died Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at the Lakeland Hospital of Corewell Health Systems in St. Joseph.

Services celebrating his life will be held at 11 AM on Tuesday, July 22, at the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Township with Rev. James Dunn officiating. The visitation will be from 5 PM to 8 PM on Monday evening with Masonic Rites at 7 PM. Burial will follow the service at North Shore Memory Gardens where Military Rites will be performed. Please share memories or messages at www.florin.net.

Gene was born on July 9, 1947 in St. Joseph to Fred and Evelyn Sonnenberg. He was a veteran of the Vietnam era serving in the Air Force where he developed his love of planes. He had his pilot license and was a longtime member of the Experimental Aircraft Association. Gene graduated from Lake Michigan College and then went on to receive his Bachelor of Science Degree from Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Ky. He married his wife, Donna, in 1973 and together they have celebrated 52 years of marriage. Gene was employed at Michigan Fruit Cannery for 30 years and retired from there as Warehouse Manager. After this he was employed as a truck driver with Express One Trucking for 5 years before fully retiring in 2010. He was active in many of the Masonic groups including being a Past Master of the Lakeshore Masonic Lodge and 32 Degree mason in the Valley of South Bend.

He enjoyed fishing and was a member of the Steel Headers group. Gene was also active in the DAV and was a Past Commander of the DAV. He was also active in many of the area groups over the years.

His family includes his wife, Donna; his children, Renee Lynn Sonnenberg of Portage, IN and Dawn Jean Sonnenberg of Bridgman; and his 2 grandchildren, Aidden and Micah Sonnenberg.

Cemetery Details

North Shore Memory Gardens

5027 M 63 N
Coloma, MI 49038

Previous Events

Visitation

JUL 21. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
1053 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 926-7222
staff@florin.net

Celebration of life

JUL 22. 11:00 AM (ET)

Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service
1053 East Napier Avenue
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
(269) 926-7222
staff@florin.net

Burial

JUL **22** (ET)

North Shore Memory Gardens

5027 M 63 N

Coloma, MI 49038

Tribute Wall

TW

“ I had the honor of working with Gene at Michigan Fruit Cannery. My condolences and prayers to his wife, children and family!



Teretha Williams - July 24, 2025 at 12:22 PM

LW

“ So sorry for your loss Donna and family

Linda Wheeler - July 22, 2025 at 06:49 PM

NB

“ Gene was always the guy I could count on at Michigan Fruit to keep me smiling. RIP my friend, go flying with the angels.

Nancy Steele Butzbach - July 20, 2025 at 04:32 PM

JF

“ Josephine Doss-Smith & Family lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg



Josephine Doss-Smith & Family - July 20, 2025 at 03:45 PM



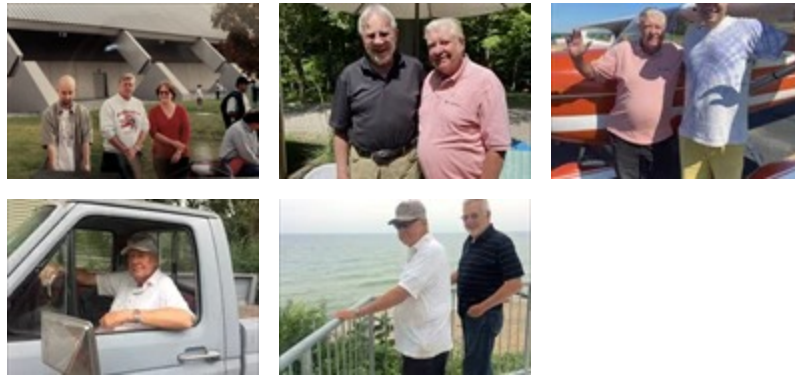
“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg.



July 20, 2025 at 03:23 PM



“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Dawn Sonnenberg - July 20, 2025 at 11:45 AM



“ The Sonnenbergs were are neighbors for years always nice super friendly I am so sorry Donna what more can one say he is not now or will he ever be in pain again. To both girls take care of mom she did alot for dad see she is ok hugs barb McKie. (Williams)



Barbara McKie - July 20, 2025 at 11:29 AM

DS

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Dawn Sonnenberg - July 19, 2025 at 10:39 AM

DS

“ Dawn Sonnenberg lit a candle in memory of Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg



Dawn Sonnenberg - July 19, 2025 at 10:30 AM

CG

Your Cousin Georgia

Cousin Georgia - July 19, 2025 at 02:42 PM

LM

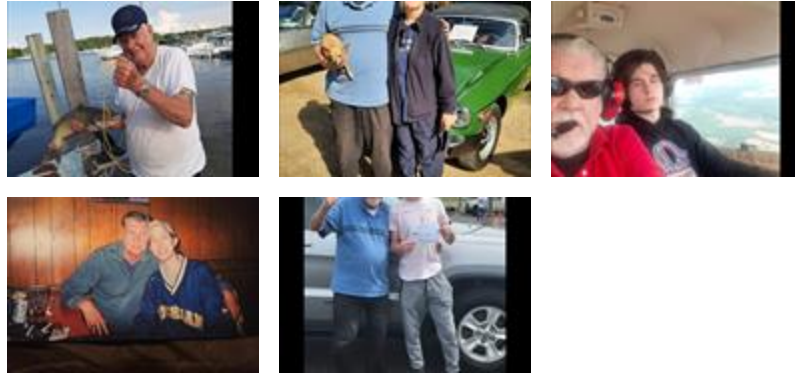
“ Linda & Bob Moisant purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg.



Linda & Bob Moisant - July 18, 2025 at 07:04 PM

RS

“ 13 files added to the album Dad



Renee Sonnenberg - July 18, 2025 at 05:35 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Sonnenberg.



July 18, 2025 at 03:52 PM