



Gerald Vernon Cole

November 17, 1923 - January 5, 2018

Gerald (Jerry or GV) Vernon Cole was born in Aurora, Neb. to Fred Cole and Ruth (Rowley) Cole. He spent his early childhood in Nebraska and after graduating from high school in Lincoln, Neb., he went to Wyoming and worked as a shoe salesman and railroad freight clerk.

Like many in his generation, Jerry was drafted into the Army in 1942 and was stationed in Sheridan, Wyoming, Camp Carson, Colo. and San Diego, Calif. Prior to deployment to the Pacific he became ill with the mumps and could not deploy. Instead he was assigned to a coastal artillery training unit and stationed in Camp Hulen, Palacios, Texas.

One evening at a USO dance he met Joyce Marie Marek and fell in love. They were married on Sept. 6, 1944 and started their lives together. The family soon grew to include Scott Allen, Mark Gerald, Sara and Cookie. The family remained in El Campo except for a three year move to Glenrock, Wyoming.

GV worked as an independent insurance agent and loved the insurance business. He was active in many civic organizations, including the American Legion and the First Presbyterian Church. Many at the church recall him frequently “standing in” for the pastor and most importantly, the sweet smell of freshly baked, refrigerator rolls distracting worshipers prior to the scheduled pot luck meals after worship service. At the age of 72, was elected to the El Campo City Council where he honorably served for 10 years. This was one of GV’s cherished and most enjoyable activities. He loved the city, loved the people and wanted to ensure that El Campo remained a hidden gem for businesses, families and especially children.

Jerry was preceded in death by his wife, Joyce (Marek) Cole and two of his children, Scott Allen Cole and Cookie Cole.

He is survived by son, Mark Gerald Cole of Ocala, Fla.; daughter, Sara Cole of Salem, Va.; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Jerry is interned at the Garden of Memories Cemetery.

To honor his commitment to the American Legion the family requests that all blessings and donations be in the form of a contribution in his name to American Legion Post 251 in El Campo.

Comments



“ We are so very sorry for your loss. Everyone loved your father. I spent many moments in quick passing visiting with him. He always had a smile, conversation and love for everyone. May you be blessed knowing what a wonderful person he was and that memories abound when his name is mentioned. God bless all of you.
Dot and Ellwood Hermansen

Dot Hermansen - January 17, 2018 at 03:07 PM



“ Sheldon Holub lit a candle in memory of Gerald Vernon Cole



Sheldon Holub - January 12, 2018 at 09:21 PM