



## Gary Orton Thorson

March 23, 1936 - January 14, 2015

Gary Orton Thorson, 78, of Hot Springs Village passed away Wednesday, January 14, 2015. He was born March 23, 1936 in Devils Lake, North Dakota to the late Tillford and Mable Aaburg Thorson.

He was predeceased by his parents, brother, Lee Thorson and grandson, Garrett Hamm.

Gary was a member and former Elder of the Village Church of Christ and the Sojourner Mission. Gary was the owner of Gary Thorson Furniture. He was a United States Army Veteran, Past President of the Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Hot Springs Executive Association, and The AR Furniture Association. He was the 1986 AR Small Business Man of the Year.

Survivors include his wife of 58 years, June Thorson; four daughters, Jo Hamm, Kim (Keith) Evans, Kristi (Tom) Powal and Toni Parrish; one sister, LuAnn Devier; nine grandchildren, Justin Hamm, Corbin (Carl) Pulliam, Macie Hamm, Eli Sligh, Amber Rochelle, Hannah Snyder, Abby Burks, and Jordan and Josh (Page) Matthews; three great grandchildren, Kendall & Quinton Rochelle, & Emily Snyder.

A Celebration of his life will be held at 5:00 PM Monday, January 19th at the Village Church of Christ with David Tappe officiating.

His wishes were to donate his body to the Genesis Research Center of Medical Science.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Sojourner Mission- 5554 Cooks Road - Marshall, Texas 75670-9130.

# Tribute Wall

DD

“ *The service this evening was a wonderful celebration of a life well-lived! Gary will be greatly missed by all who loved him and his impetuous sense of humor. I feel honored to have gotten to know him even just a little. Our loss is Heaven's gain!*

*Deannie Diseker  
Sojourner*

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**Deannie Diseker** - January 19, 2015 at 08:34 PM

VD

“ *June, my friend Jane Evans told me about Gary and I was able to find this sight. I have been out of town and just got the news this morning. You know how saddened I am to get this news. We have been friends so long and I love you and Gary so much! My prayers will certainly be with you and your family. I wish I could be there with you. Love, Deanie Dobkins*

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**Verdean Dobkins** - January 19, 2015 at 12:03 PM

LJ

“ *Lori Jack sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Orton Thorson*



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**Lori Jack** - January 19, 2015 at 10:54 AM

LJ

*Prayers going up for the Thorson Family. Love you all and the wonderful memories of growing up together at Richard Street Church of Christ! God Bless You!*

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**Lori Jack** - January 19, 2015 at 10:56 AM

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*DEAR JUNE AND FAMILY: SO SORRY TO HEAR OF GARY O'S PASSING. HE AND I WERE SUCH GREAT GRADE SCHOOL AND HIGHSCHOOL FRIENDS, AND CONTINUED THE FRIENDSHIP WHENEVER WE WOULD MEET. HE WAS A GREAT GUY AND WE WILL MISS HIM. ALLAN AND EVON THOMPSON, DEVILS LAKE, N.D.*

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**ALLAN & EVON THOMPSON** - February 02, 2015 at 05:26 PM

JM

*“ I have known Gary since childhood. Oh, how he loved to tease the 'little girls' which we were, and little pests to him as well. To grow up having the same career was a little ironic. We enjoyed talking business and joking around. The fun loving guy will be missed. To the family, please, accept our deepest condolences. Judy (Fugle) MacDonald*

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**Judy MacDonald** - January 19, 2015 at 08:29 AM

BJ

“ It was with great human sadness when I got the word that Gary had transcended out of this realm... but with spiritual joy to think of my friend settling in to his heavenly home. He was a good Christian man, a good family man, a good father & grandfather, a good business man, and a good civic minded/civic active man. He enjoyed a good laugh and could make you do the same. Gary was the kind of honest man who would say, "It's raining." and you would automatically grab your umbrella without ever looking outside first. Gary was not only a friend but a mentor. I, along with his family and friends, will miss him greatly. Yet I smile when I think about how I kidded him after discovering, while gathering bio info for one of the press releases I did for him years ago, the city of his birth. I would say, "Gary, when that day arrives won't it be somethin' for Saint Peter to welcome someone into heaven who is from Devil's Lake!"



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**Bill Ott, Jr.** - January 18, 2015 at 01:54 PM

PJ

“ Gary's work with the Listening Labs was monumental and of great importance to the Church he loved and to the Sojourners. He will be greatly missed.

*Philip Johnson*

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**Philip Johnson** - January 17, 2015 at 11:00 PM