



Jay M. Gish

January 1, 1945 - January 16, 2023

Jay M. Gish, 78, of Elizabethtown, passed away suddenly on Monday, January 16, 2023, following a period of declining health.

He was born and raised in Lancaster County to the late Marie (“Mick”) and Paul Gish and was the husband of the late Rachel Gish, with whom he shared nearly 53 years of marriage. Recently, Jay was the loving life partner of Christine Nye, of Maytown.

Growing up on a farm gave Jay a lifelong interest in agriculture and mechanics. After graduating from Elizabethtown Area High School and an adventurous trip around the Western US, he spent his young working years as an auto mechanic. He subsequently had a successful career in trucking, as an owner operator, most recently leased to Jagtrux, Inc. prior to his retirement in June 2009.

Jay enjoyed hunting, fishing, and camping with his family and friends, including many trips to PA state parks and other favorite outdoor areas. He spent much time during his later years collecting and restoring antique tractors and engines, as well as a Ford Model T Pickup. Jay was a regular each year at the E-town fair, showing off his latest toys and often making cider or ice cream to give away. He also enjoyed spending time with his friends in the Amish community and assisting them with transportation.

Jay is survived by two sons, Kevin Gish and wife Dee of Sharon, VT and Andy Gish and wife Michele of Annapolis, MD; brother Herb Gish of Bainbridge; and 4 grandchildren: Margaret, Chris, Casey, and Drew.

A celebration of life service will be held at the Maytown Reformed United Church of Christ, 11 E. Elizabeth St, Maytown, PA on Saturday, January 28 at 11:00 am, with a visitation from 10:00 am until the start of the service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in his name to the Alzheimer's Association (alz.org), a favorite charity of Jay's in recognition of their support in the final years of his wife Rachel's life.

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 28. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Maytown Reformed United Church of Christ
11 E. Elizabeth St
Maytown, PA 17550

Memorial Service

JAN 28. 11:00 AM (ET)

Maytown Reformed United Church of Christ
11 E. Elizabeth St
Maytown, PA 17550

Tribute Wall

TD

“ My wife and I only knew Jay a short time. He welcomed us as neighbors and became fast friends. We always enjoyed chatting and sharing a laugh while just hanging out in the yard. He will be missed.

Thomas Drake - January 28, 2023 at 11:47 PM

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“ Dear Kevin and Andy: So sorry to read your Dad's obit. Last I spoke to him was after your Mother's passing. I tried to keep in touch, but never heard from him again. I know he went through quite a trial taking care of her. Although it has been many years since we moved from the Etown area, I have many fond memories of your Mom and Dad, including two very young boys that grew up and made them very proud. May God comfort you with his mercy and grace during this difficult time.

*Terry Starr
Rehoboth Beach, Delaware*

TERRY L STARR - January 23, 2023 at 01:38 PM