



## Gary L. Hendricks

August 8, 1938 - June 1, 2009

Gary L. Hendricks, 70, of Evansville, passed away Monday, June 1, 2009 at Jewish Hospital in Louisville, KY.

Gary was the Director of First Impressions at Bristol–Myers Mead Johnson and had previously worked in car sales, earning the Salesman of the Year Award numerous times. He was also an ordained minister, having founded the Adam II Alcohol and Drug Abuse Ministry.

Gary was a very loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather. He was his grandchildren's biggest fan and attended any activities they were involved in.

Surviving are his wife of 31 years, Bea (Brunson) Hendricks; a daughter and her husband, Debi and Kent Brittingham of Evansville; two sons and their wives, Glenn and Karen Jones of Sellersburg, IN and Brian and Cindy Jones of Evansville; his sister, Kay Hillenbrand of Evansville; brother, Ernie Hendricks and his wife, Sonia of Greenville, KY; grandchildren, Isaac Jones, Tad Brittingham and his wife, Stephanie, Lyndi Nickerson and her husband, Major Roy Nickerson, Brad Jones and Carla Bledsoe and her husband, Mike and three great grandchildren, Ashley, Zachary and Alex. Also surviving are daughters, Kim, Shelly and Misty; grandchildren, Ryan, Ashley and Sammy, all of Port Richey, FL and many beloved nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held at 10:00 A.M. on Friday, June 5, 2009 at Howell General Baptist Church, Revs. Gary Brunson and Terry Gamblin officiating. Burial will follow in Park Lawn Cemetery.

Friends may visit with the family from 3:00 until 8:00 P.M. on Thursday at Pierre Funeral Home, 2601 W. Franklin Street and from 9:00 A.M. until service time on Friday at the church.

Memorial contributions may be made to Howell General Baptist Church or your favorite charity.

Friends and family may leave online condolences at [www.pierrefuneralhome.com](http://www.pierrefuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 4. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Pierre Funeral Home  
2601 W. Franklin Street  
Evansville, IN

## Visitation

JUN 5. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Howell General Baptist Church  
1520 Delmar Ave.  
Evansville, IN

## Service

JUN 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

Howell General Baptist Church  
1520 Delmar Ave.  
Evansville, IN

# Tribute Wall



“ Gary L. Hendricks

January 16, 2023 at 06:53 PM



“ My deepest condolence to Garys family, I am sorry not to have written earlier as I only came to know of Gary's passing away today as I did a google search on his name. I had wrongly assumed that he has retired from MJN when my email didn't go through to him in late 2009 because he mentioned to me once that he was thinking of retiring at age 70.

What reminded me of Gary today was a coffee table book of MJN which he gave to me on my last day of work at MJN. During my consulting work at MJN (2006 thr 2007), Gary became a good friend of mine and I used to have regular discussions with him during my coffee break on numerous topics such military history, religion, culture, sports etc. As I was new to Evansville, he became my guide and told me all about local events, nearby weekend attractions etc and even introduced me to a barber friend of his (Eddy) where I used to run into him sometimes. He was good friend and counselor, who helped me keep my sanity intact during the crunch time of my projects at MJN. Gary was wonderful person, and I feel honored to have known him and worked with him.##imported-begin##Nitesh##imported-end##

May 13, 2013 at 09:26 AM



“ Bea,

*My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this difficult time. I was shocked to learn of Gary's passing when I returned to the office at MJN today after a week out. Gary was one of the nicest people I've ever had the pleasure to meet and privilege to work with. He will be greatly missed.##imported-begin##Cheryl Loehrlein##imported-end##*

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June 08, 2009 at 08:23 PM



“ Gary always welcomed the Canadian visitors to MJN with great enthusiasm. He had a collection of Canadian souvenirs that he kept on his desk. He was proud of it. I am sorry I never had the chance to add another Canadian trinket to his collection. Thanks for always treating us with such a family spirit. God Bless.##imported-begin##lindani mwase##imported-end##

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June 08, 2009 at 11:41 AM



“ I frequently visited Evansville from the Canadian Mead Johnson office along with my Canadian colleagues. Gary had an impressive collection of Canadian souvenirs which he was always proud to show us. He always remembered our names and even the names of my daughters! He was a true gentleman and he will be missed by his Canadian friends.##imported-begin##Carol Trudeau##imported-end##

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June 08, 2009 at 10:01 AM



“ Gary was a huge asset to MJN and will be greatly missed! I have never known anyone who had such a huge impact on everyone he touched ... he was the angel at the "front desk" and the title "Director of First Impressions" fit perfectly.

*Rest in Peace, Gary. My thoughts and prayers are with you, Bea, as you go through this difficult time. May the love of family and friends carry you through.*

*Love, Karen##imported-begin##Karen Monar##imported-end##*

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June 06, 2009 at 01:09 AM



“ We will miss him dearly and are truly blessed to have known him. I will always remember the loving and caring way Gary approached everyone and look forward to sharing more with friends and family about our experiences and relationship. God bless.

*Agape,*

*Eric##imported-begin##Eric Kneller##imported-end##*

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June 05, 2009 at 07:51 PM



“ Dear Ms Bea and family,

*I was saddened to hear of Gary's passing. Gary was a dear friend of mine, of the Jewish people, the State of Israel and the OU (my employer), and he will be greatly missed. Gary and I often conversed about the Bible and faith, and his relationship with me meant a great deal to me. I will truly miss him.*

*May God comfort you and your entire family.*

*Sincerely,*

*Rabbi Yosef Levy##imported-begin##Rabbi Yosef Levy##imported-end##*

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June 05, 2009 at 01:23 PM



“ Gary was a true gentleman and a jewel to work with. He was the perfect Director of First Impressions at MJN. Gary was always most pleasant and helpful. He will be missed.

*Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.##imported-begin##Myrtle Englert##imported-end##*

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June 04, 2009 at 10:57 PM



“ I'am so sorry for your lost. My Condolence To The Family and Friends.##imported-begin##AngieLeBlanc(Burczyk)(Shroyer)##imported-end##

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June 04, 2009 at 10:32 PM



“ Dear Bea, Ernie, Kay and families,  
I remember so many years ago, the time we spent together as family. Just want you to know that I'm remembering you all in my prayers at this time of great loss and sorrow for your family. I live in China now with my parents. I saw the lovely video and it brought back so many memories. I'm thinking of you all.  
Love, Judy###imported-begin###Judy (Habib) Rodriguez###imported-end##

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June 04, 2009 at 05:32 PM



“ Gary will be greatly missed. He always had a smile and never forgot a name. He wore the title of "Director of First Impressions" well. Prayers and thoughts are with your family during this time.###imported-begin###Mary Stewart###imported-end##

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June 04, 2009 at 04:34 PM



“ Gary was very special. When I would see him at Mead Johnson it made my day. He was always full of energy and always ask me about my family. We all loved Gary. I will always remember Gary. My deepest sympathy to Gary's family.###imported-begin###Brenda Doty###imported-end##

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June 04, 2009 at 04:33 PM



“ Gary was a piece of sunshine for Mead Johnson. He will be missed greatly. We loved his smile and good humor###imported-begin###Sharon Hadley###imported-end##

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June 04, 2009 at 04:27 PM



“ *It was a pleasure knowing and working with Gary and counting him among my friends. I truly miss him --- his funny stories, his genuine interest in me and my stories, his words of encouragement, his ability to brighten my day, his smile and laugh and his witty sense of humor. I looked forward to talking to him each morning when I got my coffee. He loved to talk about his family and always asked about mine! Everyone that knows him has truly been blessed and I am forever grateful to be among one of those. My heartfelt sympathy goes to his family --- I am certain you have an abundance of wonderful memories to hold close to your heart. God bless!##imported-begin##Nicki Sledd##imported-end##*

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June 04, 2009 at 03:54 PM



“ I've had the pleasure of not only knowing Gary since the 70's when I was a little girl growing up at Bible Center Cathedral, but more recently, working with him at Mead Johnson since the late 90's. What a privelege and experience it has been! In passing through the lobby you could always count on a 'hello', a smile, or a short story from Gary. Gary always took the time to acknowledge you. I always teased him about his amazing ability to cover topics from A-Z in 0.6 seconds. During our many conversations we reminisced a lot about friends that we knew from church or caught up on each other's family happenings. Gary and I both had birthdays in early August and even though he knew I usually took the day off for my birthday, he would call and leave a message singing Happy Birthday. The favor would be returned by me a few days later on his birthday although without the singing!! I use to look forward to his greeting every year and will definitely miss it this year! He will fondly be remembered and greatly missed! So long for now "Director of First Impressions" and until God calls us all home. Prayers and blessings, Bea, to you and the family during, what is a homecoming celebration for Gary, but sorrowful time for the rest of us.##imported-begin##Cindy L. Jarrett##imported-end##

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June 04, 2009 at 10:59 AM



“ Mrs. Hendricks & Family:

*I was saddened to hear of Gary's passing. I work for a supplier to Mead Johnson, and have visited Evansville many times over the past 8 years. Several of those visits were not under the best of circumstances, but Gary never failed to greet me by name with a smile and a personal comment or two. He really made me feel welcomed, and has made a lasting impression on me. I pray for you and your entire family as you mourn the loss of a great individual. Please take some comfort in the fact that Gary positively touch countless people across the country and the world.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jay Arnold*

*Lancaster, PA##imported-begin##Jay Arnold##imported-end##*

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June 04, 2009 at 09:43 AM



“ Dear relatives of Gary,

*During the MJN business from the Netherlands it was always a pleasure to see Gary again. He was a man with a good mood and always friendly. Being in Evansville he was always interested about how we, as being far away from home, were doing back home*

*My sincere condolences with the loss of Gary*

*Carel Boone*

*Mead Johnson the Netherlands##imported-begin##Carel Boone##imported-end##*

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June 04, 2009 at 03:23 AM



“ I was so sad to read of Gary's passing. He was a good friend of my husbands, Lonny, and mine fifty years ago. We did a lot of running around and having fun.  
You have my deepest sympathy.

Sincerely,  
Marilyn Lackey###imported-begin###Marilyn Lackey###imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 07:02 PM



“ Gary was truly the face of Mead Johnson in Evansville. He had an amazing memory for faces and made every visitor feel welcome. I was particularly impressed upon my return visits as a vendor. So professional, yet warm. You will be sorely missed my friend. Steve Sorensen###imported-begin###Steve Sorensen###imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 06:39 PM



“ My thoughts an prayers to Gary's family. Though I only saw Gary 1-2 times per year, as I am a field based manager in Texas, Gary never forgot who I was or what I was doing. Seeing Gary was always the best part of coming to headquarters. He will be missed.

Sincerely,  
Holly Jennings###imported-begin###Holly Jennings###imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 06:20 PM



“ May it be said that he did "give light to them that sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."  
Luke 1:79

*I am grateful to have known Gary at Mead Johnson. I am sorry that I am out of the country and unable to pay respects in person. He was so kind and supportive of us in helping us to find the way.##imported-begin##Karissa Cliff##imported-end##*

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June 03, 2009 at 05:58 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Gary's Family, friends and associates.##imported-begin##Katherine Saldana##imported-end##

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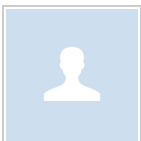
June 03, 2009 at 04:02 PM



“ I was honoured to have known Gary. My son Charlie considered Gary like an uncle and was always excited to come to the office to meet him.  
Gary greeted all visitors to Evansville with the same warmth and efficiency and created absolutely the right first impressions of Mead Johnson.  
He will be greatly missed and not forgotten!  
Steve Golsby-CEO MJN##imported-begin##Steve Golsby##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 04:02 PM



“ YOU WILL BE MISSED. COUSIN ED##imported-begin##Edward Shroyer##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 03:06 PM



“ My condolences to Gary's family. He was a great man. Anyone who entered the lobby of Mead Johnson was touched by his ability to make you feel welcome, and put you at ease. He had an uncanny ability to remember you after one meeting. His collection of souvenirs from all over the world, on display at his desk, serves as testimony to his many friends from around the world. We will remember him fondly, and miss him.##imported-begin##Vern McCrory##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 02:59 PM



“ Conchita... That was the name Gary used to call me.. It may seem insignificant to some but, it made me feel special. Gary had a wonderful way of talking to people and making them feel special and unique. He had a Christlike way about him. The last time I saw Gary I had gone down to Deaconess to drop off a get well card. I was afraid it would not arrive on time, so I personally went to the hospital. My plan was to just go inside, drop off the card at the front desk and rush off to run some errands. I thought to myself, I will come by and see him another day when I don't have any errands. I also had my two children with me. Well, God had a different plan. The front desk nurse said, m'aam you can go right up. I said, are you sure? I have a 3 and 7 year old with me. She said it's fine. I did go up and my kids interacted with Gary. They've seen him before, but somehow this visit was different. As I left I told Gary I was moving to Miami and I would come back and say goodbye with the kids and hubby before I left. But, that was actually the last time I saw Gary. I said goodbye to Gary that day. Ever since then, my 3 and 7 year olds had been praying for him. When I had to give them the bad news, they both said, well it's ok; God needed to bring him home to play with other children and even though he's in heaven now, he will always be our best friend. I will never forget Gary and I know we will see him one day when God calls us back. Bea and family, our prayers and thoughts are with you. May you find refuge and strength in God's love... God bless....##imported-begin##Jenni Reyes aka ##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 02:55 PM



“ I've worked with Gary at Mead Johnson for many years. More importantly, Gary was the minister at a wedding I coordinated in New Harmony last year for Pam and Chris Crowley.

Gary and his wife Bea made the wedding an even more Blessed occasion as they shared their love through Gary's words and Bea's beautiful poem reading.

Thank you for sharing this wonderful man with us. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Dr. James Dobson's words sum up what Gary's life was all about.

"When I reach the end of my days,  
a moment or two from now,  
I must look back on something more  
meaningful than the pursuit of houses  
and land and machines and stocks and bonds. Nor is fame of any  
lasting benefit.

I will consider my earthly existence  
to have been wasted, unless I can recall ...

... a loving family  
... a consistent investment in the lives of people  
... and an earnest attempt to serve the God who made me.

And there's no better time than now  
to assess the values which are worthy  
of my time and effort."

"For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."  
Matt. 6:21##imported-begin##Janet Robertson##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 01:27 PM



“ Gary was an amazing person. So warm, and always cared on a very personal level. He had a unique ability to remember names, their home towns, their family memebers...everything. And when he asked about them, I could tell that he was truely interested, and cared. I enjoyed having Gary and Bea at our gatherings years ago when I was working at MJN. I feel blessed to have in my memory of his smile, and his touching words when he spoke of Bea. I miss you, Gary.##imported-begin##Sylvia Chen##imported-end##

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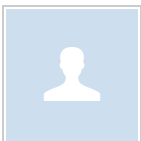
June 03, 2009 at 01:26 PM



“ I knew Gary in his role as the ever-friendly and helpful "first impressions" fellow at Mead Johnson. He was a real gentleman with a kind and loving spirit. I know you are grieving the passing of this precious man; I offer my heartfelt sympathy and prayers.##imported-begin##John Michael O'Leary##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 12:11 PM



“ What a great person. I did the vending at MJ a couple of years ago. Everytime he saw me we would chat about the day or days gone by. Condolences to the family. He will be missed greatly.##imported-begin##Gina Tremper##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 11:55 AM



“ I have always thought a lot of Gary since I first got to know him while I was in college in the 80's and while attending Bible Center Cathedral. Gary always was a great friend to me and helped me at work when I needed someone to talk to or just needed help. He never failed to mention how he loved our singing. He was a wonderful man and will be greatly missed. The kingdom is blessed to have him.##imported-begin##Jeanne (Nix) Bundy##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 11:55 AM



“ Deepest sympathy to Gary's family. I always looked forward to chatting with him while visiting MJ. He was always helpful and had something nice to say.##imported-begin##Jan Aylsworth##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 11:47 AM



“ Whenever I walked through the lobby at Mead Johnson, I could always count on a friendly smile and a quick chat with Gary. He never failed to brighten my day and he always had positive things to say. Gary has touched many people and I am thankful that I was given the opportunity to meet him.##imported-begin##Beth Crowe##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 10:29 AM



“ In the midst of a hectic work day you could count on a friendly smile and lighthearted moment with Gary when you walked thru the lobby of Mead's everyday - without fail. His personality and smile suited him to be the 'official greeter' to all who entered. We all loved Gary because he was genuine - good hearted, and a shining example of a Christian man. We all knew how much he loved "his Bea" and the pride he had for his family. We will miss him always - and our prayers are with you all. Bev Simmons##imported-begin##Bev Simmons##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 10:10 AM



“ Gary was a very good man. He always would help anyone who needed help. I know he is in Heaven now and enjoying his family that is with him. Be blessed....Gary....Jean & Jake Simmons...##imported-begin##Jean & Jake Simmons##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 09:38 AM



“ To the Hendricks Family -

*My heartfelt condolences. I know Gary from work. I would visit Evansville and Mead Johnson for project work. He was MJN's best asset. Truly the. Director of first impressions. He is one of a kind. He always was the highlight of my trip. I will miss him.*

- Ken Harris

*Cannondale Associates##imported-begin##Ken Harris##imported-end##*

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June 03, 2009 at 08:59 AM



“ Gary, Like you did for so many others, you were the first person who welcomed me to Mead Johnson and then continued to brighten my days over the years with your smile and our conversations. Your sincere interest in people, our lives and stories was a gift. You truly made a difference in so many people's lives including my own. Thank you! You're missed but still in our hearts.##imported-begin##gay janowicz##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 08:44 AM



“ Though I only worked with Gary for a few years I have never seen anyone as passionate about his work. He always had details to share about his family, particularly, his grandchildren. His smile will be missed at the MJN desk.##imported-begin##Rick Gunselman##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 08:21 AM



“ Heaven gained a new Angel.  
I can see Gary at Heaven's door greeting everyone as they enter.

Gary will be sadly missed at Mead Johnson. Very hard to walk by the front desk without seeing his smiling face.

May you find strength in God during this extremely difficult time.

God Bless.

Bob and Nancy##imported-begin##Bob and Nancy Cutrell##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 07:52 AM



“ Gary provided so much joy to all us for so many years. Yes, I am the one who gave him the unofficial title and nameplate as Director, First Impressions. But it was Gary that turned it into a real profession! He performed our marriage ceremony in 1990, he sold me a Delta 88 Oldsmobile in 1986. He gave me a hug or handshake every time our paths crossed. I give thanks for knowing him and all the good he gave to family, friends, and strangers. God speed my friend.##imported-begin##Thom Ray##imported-end##

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June 03, 2009 at 12:47 AM



“ I mean what can you say about a man that has done so many wonderful things in his lifetime? He brought joy to so many peoples lives and I know that he will continue doing the same he will just be doing it a little further from us. Uncle Gary will forever be special in my heart and will be greatly missed but not forgotten.##imported-begin##Stefanie Wickware##imported-end##

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June 02, 2009 at 11:31 PM



“ Gary was holding court, as he often did, in the lobby the first day I walked into Mead Johnson for an interview. I distinctly remember reading "Director of First Impressions" off of the brass name plate he always kept on his desk and thinking what a great idea that was. Luckily I was offered the job and was afforded the opportunity to find out how well Mead Johnson had done when they picked this man to be the front line at their Global Headquarters. It was a joy to work with Gary, listen to his stories and benefit from his wit and wisdom. I've missed his presence over the past months and will continue to do so. Mead won't be the same without him.

What I wonder now is when I go to meet my maker, will it be St. Peter or Gary tending the Pearly Gates? I hope that Peter brings his A Game because he has competition for that spot at the front door.##imported-begin##Matthew Ulm##imported-end##

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June 02, 2009 at 08:11 PM