



## Gene A. Hilsmier

September 8, 1936 - June 12, 2010

Gene Allan Hilsmier, 73, of Calabash, North Carolina and formerly of Ossian, Indiana passed away at 11:28 a.m. Saturday, June 12, 2010 at the Carol S. Roberson Hospice Center in Fayetteville, North Carolina.

Gene was born in Wells County, Indiana on September 8, 1936 to the late Ernest W. and Glenna G. (Quackenbush) Hilsmier. He graduated from Ossian High School in 1954 and attended Purdue Extension in Fort Wayne. Gene resided in Ossian, Indiana and was a Design Engineer for IT & T from 1956 to 1964. He was employed at International Harvester Heavy Duty Truck as a Cab Designer from 1964 to December of 1981. He relocated to Greensboro, NC in 1983 as Lead Designer for the Body Surface Development Division of Volvo Truck of North America. He held that position until 1996. He retired and moved to Calabash, NC in 1998. Gene was an U.S. Air Force National Guard Veteran. He was a member of Bluffton Elks Lodge, Bluffton Masonic Lodge, Eastern Star, the Scottish Rite of Fort Wayne, and the Mizpah Shrine. Gene was raised of the Presbyterian Faith.

Mr. Hilsmier is survived by his wife of 49 years H. Lorraine (Harris) Hilsmier of Calabash, NC, a son, Greg Hilsmier of Winston Salem, NC, a daughter, Anjanette Lassiter (husband: Randy) of Huntington, IN, four grandsons, Bryce Bender of Waynedale, Brandt Bender, Trey Bender, and Cole Lemberg all of Huntington, a step-grand-daughter, Azrea Lassiter of Hoagland, Indiana, a

sister, Carolyn Lipp (husband: Norman) of Ossian, IN, a sister-in-law, Willie Hilsmier of Garrett, Indiana, several nieces and nephews, several great nieces and nephews and several great-great nieces and nephews. Gene was preceded in death by twin daughters, Julia and Jill Hilsmier, a son, Mark Alan Hilsmier, two brothers, Paul Hilsmier and Edwin Hilsmier.

Calling hours are 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Thursday, June 17, 2010 at Thoma/Rich, Chaney & Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton, Indiana. Calling is also one hour prior to services Friday at the funeral home. Masonic memorial service will be at 8:00 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Elks memorial service will be at 8:30 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home. Funeral service is 10:30 a.m. Friday, June 18, 2010 at the funeral home with Pastor Jay Cline officiating. Burial will be in Oaklawn Cemetery in Ossian. Preferred memorials are the Shriner's Children's Hospital or The American Cancer Society. Online condolences may be made at [www.thomarich.com](http://www.thomarich.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUN 17. 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 824-3850  
info@thomarich.com

## Visitation

JUN 17. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 824-3850  
info@thomarich.com

## Visitation

JUN 18. 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home  
308 West Washington Street  
Bluffton, IN 46714  
(260) 824-3850  
info@thomarich.com

# Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Gene A. Hilsmier*



---

**Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home** - June 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM



“ *Gene A. Hilsmier*

---

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Lorraine, Greg and Angie and families*

*I'm very sorry for the loss of Gene. It has been a long time since I saw you both, but I just wanted you to know that my thoughts and prayers are with you.*

*Your old Ellenberger buddy##imported-begin##Ed "Poppy" Smith##imported-end##*

---

June 28, 2010 at 05:14 PM



“ Lorraine, you have our sympathy. I keep in touch with Dorothy Dupont. She called me to leave us know about Gene. You are in our thoughts.  
Carol Henty##imported-begin##Paul & Carol (Rinehart) Henry##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 10:26 PM



“ Lorraine,  
Am so sorry to hear of Gene's passing. I don't remember ever having the pleasure of meeting Gene. I am sadden by that as I am sure I would have liked him almost as much as I like you. May the good Lord bless you during this time. You are in my prayers.  
Bryant##imported-begin##Bryant Marshall##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 08:59 PM



“ Lorraine, you and your family have our deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Larry & Carol Curry##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 05:09 PM



“ Lorraine...  
Thinking of you and your family during this time of great loss. Am sorry to hear of Gene's passing. May you find your perfect path to peace. Blessings.##imported-begin##Timothy Link##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 03:55 PM



“ Lorraine- I am so sorry to hear of Gene's death. We miss you and are thinking about you.##imported-begin##nancy gibbons##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 02:54 PM



“ Anj,  
Sending my deepest condolences. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.  
Tonya##imported-begin##Tonya Smith##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 02:15 PM



“ Dear Lorraine and family,  
I am so sorry for your loss of Gene. He was pleasnt to work & talk with. We both worked in the Body Group at IH Design Center in Fort Wayne. You have my sympathy.  
Sincerely, Stan L. Hochstetler##imported-begin##Stan L. Hochstetler##imported-end##

---

June 17, 2010 at 03:51 AM



“ Lorraine and Family,  
My heartfelt condolences on Gene's passing. I have many fond memories of working with 'Gene the Machine' at Volvo Trucks during the 80's and 90's. Gene was a very talented and prolific Design Engineer whose influence is still seen on the road today. It was my good fortune to work with Gene for many productive and enjoyable years. Please let me know if there is anything I can help you with at this sad time.##imported-begin##Nick Rini##imported-end##

---

June 16, 2010 at 08:05 PM



“ Lorraine you and your family have my deepest sympathy.##imported-begin##Rosey (Rosemary James) Fox##imported-end##

---

June 16, 2010 at 08:08 AM



“ My deepest sympathy goes out to you for your loss.

*The years have passed by so quickly. Seems like just yesterday I worked with Gene when we both started at Volvo White Trucks in that converted Ford Dealership building in the early 80's. Lots of great products designed that never would have made it to production without his efforts. Our paths separated in 1995 but the memories of the projects we worked, Gene's efforts, and the fun we had will always be with me.##imported-begin##Dan Wells##imported-end##*

---

June 16, 2010 at 12:58 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss if there is anything i can do to help please dont hesitate to ask##imported-begin##Christopher LBower##imported-end##

---

June 15, 2010 at 05:41 PM



“ Lorraine and Family, Am also sorry to read of this--most especially so seeing as Gene was a "Brother." In all the time he worked here in NC, I regret we never discovered that of one another. Regardless, the "Symbol" is not lost--any more than memory of him will be. Deepest sympathy in your loss and May God bless you all in this time of sorrow/Skip Yeake!###imported-begin###Skip Yeake!###imported-end###

---

June 14, 2010 at 12:54 PM



“ Dear Loraine and family,  
It was with great regret that I read of the passing of your husband Gene. I worked with Gene for several years in Greensboro and I recall my admiration for the quality of his work on our products. My sympathy and prayers are with you and your family.  
Sincerely,  
Bill Mahoney###imported-begin###Bill Mahoney###imported-end###

---

June 14, 2010 at 10:20 AM



“ Lorraine,  
So sad to hear about Genes passing. We all reminisced for a bit here at Volvo regarding what a talented guy Gene was. Our thoughts are with you.  
Best Regards,  
Rich###imported-begin###Richard Langhoff###imported-end###

---

June 14, 2010 at 10:16 AM