



Gene Woolever

January 6, 1926 - January 30, 2022

Gene Woolever, age 96, passed away on January 30, 2022 in Tallahassee, Florida where he has lived since 2013. He was born on January 6, 1926 in Broken Bow, Oklahoma to parents Alonzo and Zora James Woolever. Gene attended La Sierra University and graduated from Union College and Loma Linda University. He received degrees in both Religious Studies and Physical Therapy. He moved to Cleveland, Ohio and later to Cottage Grove, Oregon where he established a Physical Therapy department at Cottage Grove Hospital and maintained his own private practice locally and in the surrounding area. Gene still found time to host seminars, stop-smoking clinics, and help his community in various ways prior to retirement in 1991.

After growing up impoverished, Gene worked hard to give his family everything he didn't have as a child. He never missed a birthday, holiday, or anniversary but still believed he could never do enough for the family that he adored. His unconditional love and devotion as the ultimate "family man" was incomparable to his unwavering faith and devotion to God. Gene was a Head Elder of Cottage Grove Seventh-day Adventist Church and is remembered for being a daily reader of the Bible – which he estimated to have read front to back over 40 times. He also loved music, especially when his wife accompanied him on the piano while he sang.

Another passion of Gene's was admiring God's gift of nature. Whether it was

by immersing himself in it while on vacation, while gardening at home, or by simply learning about it. In fact, he is remembered for being all-knowing about various subjects. His thirst for knowledge had no bounds and Gene also boasted an incredible memory so he could retain most everything he learned. It should come as no surprise that an intelligent, analytical, and devoted family man, aptly named Gene, also had a passion for genealogy: the study of families, histories, and genetics.

Gene is survived by his loving wife of nearly 53 years, Bertha Oksenholt Woolever. He also leaves behind children Sandra Garman, Anne-Marie Steinhouse, Rebecca Lucas, and Cheris Woolever; grandchildren David Garman, Crimson Steinhouse, Seth Steinhouse, and a sister Blondena Hawkins of Orange, Texas. He will also be missed by a host of beloved extended family members and friends whom he undoubtedly adored. Gene is now resting, awaiting the return of the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ. He was predeceased by his parents and siblings Floy Simpson, Rasha Woolever, Rhoma Morgan Ellison, Barbara Engdahl, Jo McNabb, and Melba Jenkins.

Gene will later be interred at Silk Creek Cemetery in Cottage Grove, Oregon among other family members. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Gene's church home: First Seventh-day Adventist Church of Tallahassee (618 Capital Cir NE, Tallahassee, FL 32301 or <https://adventistgiving.org/#/org/ANTBOV/envelope/start>).

Breanna Green of Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements. (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com)

Cemetery Details

Silk Creek Cemetery

Cottage Grove Reservoir Rd.
Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Tribute Wall

FR

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Fred - February 04, 2022 at 12:43 PM

BW

Thank you Freddie. I don't have that picture. It was wonderful to see him so young and handsome.

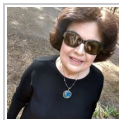
Bertha Woolever - February 04, 2022 at 07:01 PM



“ Gene was a kind, loving and honest man. I will never forget his humble nature, dependable presence and welcoming home <3



Kjersti Lindblad - February 03, 2022 at 05:25 AM



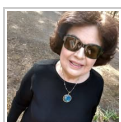
Thank you, Kjersti. We sure enjoyed our times with you. You are such a lovely person and we hope that one day we will all be together once again.

Bertha Oksenholt-Woolever - February 03, 2022 at 07:16 AM

AG

“ *My uncle Gene was not only my mother’s brother, but my mother Barbara’s best friend growing up. She often spoke of them being inseparable, how they both loved books and shared a thirst for knowledge. Gene wrote a lengthy autobiography which also included a very detailed history going back many, many generations. It is a book that I treasure.
Gene was kind, soft-spoken, gentle and intelligent and loved.*

Anita Engdahl Goodman - February 02, 2022 at 10:58 PM



Thank you, Anita. Your kind words reflect all your gentleness and warmth that you showed to Gene and me. It will not be forgotten.

Bertha Oksenholt-Woolever - February 03, 2022 at 07:18 AM

FL

My mother, Floy, loved and admired her brother Gene. They worked very hard as kids helping out the family. She was so proud of his wonderful accomplishments. We are so grateful they got to see each other before her death. Thank you, Bertha for bringing him to Ashdown.

Frances Lovell - February 04, 2022 at 03:23 PM

DH

Mother often talked of her beloved brother through the years. She said that they were very close growing up, that she was like his shadow, and she never stopped loving and admiring him. As a little girl I went to visit a school friend for the first time. When I walked in the door, to my surprise, there was Uncle Gene. My friend's mother had recently contracted polio and was confined to a padded reclining chair bed of some sort. Uncle Gene only said hello and paid me no attention, which at the time bothered me. In later years I realized that he was being the consummate professional, placing all of his attention on his paralyzed patient. Mother was so grateful for you, Bertha, telling us she was sure Uncle Gene lived so long and well due to your loving care. I am so sorry for your loss. Deborah Hencke

Deborah Hencke - February 07, 2022 at 04:15 PM