



Gerald Ralph Kunde

November 11, 1937 - June 8, 2026

The staff of Heishman Funeral Home/Valley Funeral Service sends condolences to the family of Mr. Gerald Ralph Kunde.

Colonel (Ret.) Gerald (“Jerry”) Ralph Kunde, a devoted husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather and proud servant of his country passed away peacefully at his home on June 8, 2026 at the age of 88.

Jerry was born on November 11, 1937 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. An active sportsman in his youth, Jerry enjoyed playing football, ice hockey, fishing and hunting with his brothers and friends. After graduating from college, he served in the United States Army for 27 years including three tours in Vietnam. Jerry received the Silver Star, three Bronze Stars, five Distinguished Flying Crosses, two Purple Hearts, and 52 Air Medals with Valor. After retiring as a Colonel from the U.S. Army, Jerry worked for McDonnell Douglas and Boeing.

Beyond his military accomplishments, Jerry took great pride in the lives and achievements of his loved ones. He and Patti, his wife of 62 years, enjoyed being “Pop and Nana” to their five grandchildren and spending many summers hosting at the “chalet,” playing golf, skiing and taking family vacations. He was active in the Bryce Resort community, the Shenandoah Lions Club and Our Lady of Shenandoah Catholic Church. He was known for his steady guidance, generous spirit and a dry sense of humor that drew

people to him. He was a true leader.

Jerry is survived by his wife Patricia (“Patti”); his children Mary Beth (Juan) and Chip; his grandchildren David (Katie), Danielle, Dominic (Kelles), Chad (Kayla), and Austin; and his great-grandchildren Diana and Grayson.

A Funeral Mass to celebrate Jerry’s life will be held at Our Lady of Shenandoah Catholic Church in Bryce on Saturday, June 20, 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations to St. John Bosco Catholic Church (www.sjbwoodstock.org) and St. Jude Children’s Cancer Research Center (www.stjude.org/donate).

Online condolences may be left at www.valleyfs.com

Arrangements in the care of Heishman Funeral Home Inc., Valley Funeral Service Branch, Edinburg.

Upcoming Events

Funeral Mass

JUN **20**. 12:00 PM (ET)

Our Lady of the Shenandoah Catholic Church
240 Fritzel Way
Mount Jackson, VA 22842

Tribute Wall

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“ David, Katie, and Diana purchased the Sacred Duty Spray for the family of Gerald Ralph Kunde.



David, Katie, and Diana - 4 hours ago

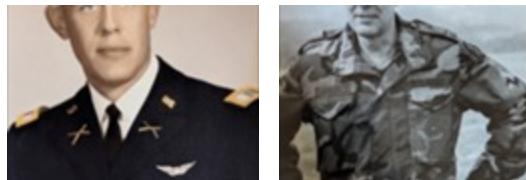
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“ David, Katie, and Diana planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerald Ralph Kunde.

David, Katie, and Diana - 4 hours ago



“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Heishman/ Valley Funeral Service - 6 hours ago