



## Gary Kinney

June 1, 2020

Gary Kinney, aka “Papa Kinney”, 82, passed away on June 1, 2020. He was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandpa, uncle, brother, entrepreneur and friend to many.

Gary was born in 1937 in Wisconsin to Melvin and Hulda Kinney. He was the middle of two siblings. After graduating from high school in June of 1955, Gary went to work for Jerry Kasian Landscape Contractor in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Within one year, he was promoted to superintendent to oversee mostly commercial projects. He supervised major landscape projects such as Interstate-94 from Minnesota to Illinois. Gary was then drafted in the US Army and was proud to service his country.

Afterwards he rejoined Jerry Kasian Landscape Contractor (Green Acres Nursery) as an estimator and salesperson, then served as the firm’s secretary. Later he joined the nation’s largest landscape firm, Sweeney Brothers, Inc. of Johnson Creek, Wisconsin and rose to the third ranking individual in the company & met the love of his life, Beverly. With much persistence, Gary convinced Beverly to marry him and they have been happily married for 54 years. Gary and Beverly formed Grove Compost Company, Inc., composting and selling duck manure. The company was sold in 1977 and is still in operation today. During a fishing trip to the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, Gary met Ed Bruner of Bruner Bonded Warehouse in Alamo. For a short period of time, Gary made trips from Wisconsin to the Rio Grande Valley to sell duck manure. He and Beverly then purchased Bruner Bonded Warehouse

in 1975 and uprooted their two young boys from Wisconsin to Donna, Texas and made the Rio Grande Valley their home where they loved the weather and their many friends.

Gary was instrumental in the organization of Valley Nursery Growers, Inc. and served as its secretary/treasurer for seven years between 1977 and 1984.

Spearheading this effort, Gary with other nurserymen successfully lobbied for the creation of an ornamental research position at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center at Weslaco in 1983. During his career, Gary has served on a multitude of committees and boards & received awards such as:

Horticulture United – 1977-1985

Board of Directors, Rio Grande Valley Horticultural Society, President in 1985

Texas Association of Nurseryman Region VII, President in 1984

Board of Directors, Texas Association of Nurseryman 1989-1999

Chairman of the Board, Texas Nursery & Landscape Association (TNLA)

2000-2001

Texas A&M University Agricultural Development Council 1985

Chairman of the Ornamental Research Endowment at Texas A&M 1991

1994 Recipient of the Arthur T. Potts Award

Department of Horticultural Sciences of Texas A&M Horticulture Hall of Fame in 2002

2004 TNLA Arp Award

Gary was full of life, a whole lot of fun to be with, a leader in the Horticultural & Landscape Industry, dedicated to his family, the business and had a love for fishing & hanging out in Port Mansfield, Texas, hunting at his family ranch and the Green Bay Packers.

Gary is preceded in death by his parents Melvin & Hulda, his sister Doris Greenlees and brother Melroy Kinney. He is survived by his wife Beverly, sons, Todd (Michelle) and Chad (Erika), and six grandchildren, Austin, Chase, Kirsten, Karson, Meagan and Kailey.

Visitation and rosary will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 4, 2020,

at Kreidler Funeral Home, 314 N. 10th ST, McAllen. A Funeral Mass will be at 10 a.m., Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church, 1108 W Hackberry, McAllen. Interment will take place afterwards at Val Verde Memorial Gardens, 6200 Val Verde RD, Donna. For the safety of attendants, mask will be required at the services along with 6' physical distance per family. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church in McAllen, the RGV Food Bank and the Michael J Fox Foundation.

# Cemetery Details

## Val Verde Memorial Gardens

6200 N Val Verde Rd.  
Donna, TX 78537

# Previous Events

## Visitation and Rosary

JUN 4. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.  
314 N 10th St.  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 686-0234  
kreidler@sbcglobal.net  
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

## Rosary

JUN 4. 7:00 PM (CT)

Kreidler Funeral Home, Inc.  
314 N 10th St.  
McAllen, TX 78501  
(956) 686-0234  
kreidler@sbcglobal.net  
<http://www.kreidlerfuneralhome.com/index.html>

## **Funeral Mass**

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JUN 5. 10:00 AM (CT)

Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church

## **Burial will follow**

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JUN 5 (CT)

Val Verde Memorial Gardens  
6200 N Val Verde Rd.  
Donna, TX 78537

# Tribute Wall



“ Gary Kinney

October 08, 2023 at 09:43 PM



“ Gary Kinney

November 29, 2022 at 06:40 AM



“ Gary was a good friend of the Citrus Center in Weslaco, and we will miss him. All who knew him at the Center join me in sending our condolences to the Kinney family. John da Graca, Center Director

John da Graca - June 05, 2020 at 04:02 PM



“ Mrs Kinney, Todd, Chad and family I am so sorry for your loss.

Mr. Kinney was one of the nicest persons that I have ever known and was a wonderful friend to me and to my family. I treasured the time when we were able to visit with each other and I will miss him terribly, as will all of those whose lives he touched.

I will think of him often and I will smile.

Love you all,

Martin, Susan and Sterling Strarup

Martin Strarup - June 03, 2020 at 06:47 PM



GV

“ *Sincerest condolences to the Kinney family. May the memories of the good times you shared give you comfort during these difficult times and may your beloved rest in peace.* ”

George Vasquez - June 03, 2020 at 06:36 PM

RW

“ *Rodger Waldron sent a virtual gift in memory of Gary Kinney* ”



Rodger Waldron - June 03, 2020 at 02:52 PM

RW

“ *Rodger Waldron lit a candle in memory of Gary Kinney* ”



Rodger Waldron - June 03, 2020 at 02:51 PM