

**WISCONSIN RAPIDS** - Gerald E. Ashbeck, age 74, of Wisconsin Rapids, WI died Monday, February 12, 2018 in Tucson, AZ.

Memorial Services are 11:00 AM Saturday, July 14, 2018 at Saints Peter & Paul Catholic Church, Wisconsin Rapids, WI. Father Patric will officiate. The family will greet relatives and friends at Saints Peter & Paul Church on Saturday from 10:00-11:00 AM. Burial will be at Restlawn Memorial Park with military rites provided by American Legion Post #485 of Rudolph. Ritchay Funeral Home in Wisconsin Rapids is assisting the family.

Gerald was born April 15, 1943 in Marshfield, WI to Charles and Alice (Kusta) Ashbeck and was raised on the family farm in Auburndale, WI. He married his wife, Raelae on August 14, 1971 in Auburndale, WI.

Gerald attended the Devry Institute in Chicago, IL, then joined the U.S. Army serving during the Vietnam War from April 7, 1965 until April 6, 1967. While in the service Gerald earned many commendations including the Army Commendation Medal of Valor, the National Defense Service



**Gerald E. Ashbeck**

Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Combat Infantry Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Vietnam Counter Offensive Campaign Medal and also earned the Purple Heart.

After returning from the war, Gerald did electrical work for Marshfield Homes and retired from the Nekoosa/Port Edwards Paper mill, where he was a machine tender. He enjoyed traveling and camping and wintered in Tucson for the past 11 years.

Gerald is survived by his wife, Raelae; two children, Jennifer (Dane) Hofmeister of Mount Pleasant, WI and their children, Silas and Coddia Hofmeister; and Brian (Nichole) Ashbeck of Port Edwards, WI and their children, Isabella Ashbeck, Josh Graves and Veronica Graves Wright; two brothers, Chuck (Anita) Ashbeck of Phoenix, AZ and Duane (Shirley) Ashbeck of Auburndale, WI and one sister, Karen (Ron) Tlachac of Wisconsin Rapids, WI.

Gerald was preceded in death by his parents. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be given to the Never Forgotten Honor Flight Program - 4404 Rib Mountain Drive #234, Wausau, WI 54401.

**Ritchay**  
FUNERAL HOME