



Gary W. Thompson

March 23, 1959 - November 5, 2022

Gary W. Thompson, 63, of Windham, passed away Saturday (November 5, 2022) at Hartford Hospital with his family by his side. Born in New Britain, son of Kathleen “Kay” (Lane) Murray of Kensington and the late William G. Thompson, Jr.. A graduate of Berlin High School, he received his undergraduate degree from Central CT State College and a Master’s Degree in Engineering from Albertus Magnus College. Gary was an Engineer at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft in East Hartford for 44 years.

Besides his mother Kay, he leaves a son, Roger Thompson and his wife Susan of Cromwell; a sister, Gail Bickley of Vernon; two nieces, Nichole Morrissette and her husband Shawn of Limerick, Maine, and Melissa Garfield and her husband Matt of Wells, Maine ; and a nephew, Alan Bickley, Jr. and his partner Erica Pagliughi of Willington.

Funeral services are Thursday evening 7 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. Calling hours will precede the service Thursday from 5 to 7 PM at the funeral home. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The National Wildlife Federation, PO Box 1583, Merrifield, VA 22116-1583. Please share a memory or note of sympathy at www.carlsonfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Calling Hours

NOV **10**. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Carlson Funeral Home
45 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
(860) 225-6361
carlsonfh@aol.com
<https://www.carlsonfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

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Tribute Wall

PA

“ *Today is one year ago you left, love you and missed you. xoxoxo
Your girlfriend Patty*

Patty Adams - November 05, 2023 at 10:47 AM

PA

“ *To my love, Today was last time I talked to you and snuggled with
you on my birthday. I missed you terribly. You were the best
soulmate as girlfriend can ask for. It hard to believe it almost a year
you been gone. I missed you Gary, I love you!!! Love your girlfriend
Patty xoxxo*

Pat Adams - October 29, 2023 at 10:12 AM

KC

“ *Auntie Kay, Gail, Roger and the rest of the family, We are so sorry
to hear of your loss of Gary earlier this month. He was one of a kind
for sure. Praying that you will know comfort as you cherish your
memories until you meet again.*

Kris and John Corey - November 22, 2022 at 04:23 PM

LL

“ *Gary and I worked together for many years at P&W. He was a
hardworking, honest, and not afraid to speak his mind. We shared
lunch together everyday and he could always make me laugh! I will
miss his humor and friendship.*

Linda G. Longo - November 12, 2022 at 08:30 AM

AB

“ I first met Gary in 2014 through Pratt. We were both thrown into an urgent task, having enough experience and drive to try to help solve a messy problem quickly. My first impressions? Boy did he know a lot, and he wasn't afraid to remind me every time he was right about something. I think he knew right away that I would give him just as much guff as he gave me. Over the course of the summer, we bonded in the miserably of 6-day work weeks, often passing each other on the opposite sides of our workdays, him leaving as I was arriving. He always offered solutions, an opinion, and backing when I needed it. He truly was a reluctant expert on so many things. Never once did I doubt his motivation or willingness to help, even if his mouth said otherwise.

Being his supervisor was a true blessing. He always helped me see things I was missing, pointing out things I could do better, not just for him or me, but for my entire team. I rarely gave him advice in our one-on-one discussions, but wow did I learn from him every time we talked. His greatest compliment to me was that he didn't want to work for anyone else.

I will miss him, his council, his knowledge, his laugh, the smell of popcorn in the air in the office by 7 am, the shake of his head and crappy grin when he knew I was taking a risk or about to get out of line.

Thank you for being a part of my life Gary and for making me a better person. Snap some good pictures in the afterlife and be ready for a good talk when I get there. You will be sorely missed.

- Andy Burdick

Andrew Burdick - November 10, 2022 at 05:45 PM

PA

Still missing you. Think of you today. Love ya

patty adams - October 29, 2024 at 11:49 PM

JR

“ *Hi Kay. I was sorry to hear of Gary's passing. I know you and Bill were very proud of him. I didn't realize he was a Pratt engineer. I'm sorry I won't be able to attend the wake as I am now living full time in Florida - sold my house to my granddaughter, Kaitlin. Best wishes to you for the future.*

John Ragalis

John I Ragalis - November 10, 2022 at 02:22 PM

ST

“ *Gail and family – I am very sorry for the unexpected loss of Gary. My thoughts and prayers have been with you. I will miss my early morning chats with Gary (at 6:30 am, after he had already worked nearly a half day!). As he recently celebrated his 44th year at PW, he told me about his experiences from apprenticeship to getting his journeyman license to being an expediter to becoming a project engineer. He had vast experiences that not a lot of engineers have today. He also had unique experiences outside of work, which I think were spurred by his love of nature. He told me about a time when he used to tag sharks for research and the camera club he belonged to where he would take macro photos of bugs and flowers. He shared some of his albums of bug photography with my son, who has an extreme interest in a such things. His work was very good. His photography skills went beyond nature subjects and I know he was proud and happy to have photographed his niece's wedding in Maine earlier this year. He always had a good book to read, a love I know he shared with him mom. I'm glad to have worked with Gary and will miss him. ~ Stephanie Tanner*

Stephanie Tanner - November 10, 2022 at 09:55 AM

LM

“ Gary was a good coworker and friend, and while he may have grumbled about having to teach me 2 or 3 (or even 4 times!) how to do the same thing, I believe that secretly he truly enjoyed helping others learn and seeing them succeed. Gary helped me find my way through various systems and processes as a newly minted Deputy CIPT Leader in Hot Section at Pratt, but much more than that, I will remember Gary for his love of photography and how much he helped me learn to take photos. Gary coached me through my “big camera” purchase about 7 years ago, and then would spend time critiquing my pictures – in true Gary form, telling me how I screwed up and to not be lazy – but then helping me to make my shots better. He always shared his photos with folks, and boy did he have some amazing pictures! Gary had a thoughtful heart. One memory is when I was on maternity leave with my 4th child and Gary stopped by my house to deliver butterfly nets for my older 3 kids to play with to keep the kids outside and occupied while I had my newborn.

“The highest tribute to the dead is not grief but gratitude” and so I say thank you to Gary for having shared his knowledge at work and his passion for photography with me, and for letting my family be a small part of his life. We are keeping him and his family in our prayers. Godspeed, Gary.

Liz Mitchell - November 09, 2022 at 01:15 PM

MP

“ Deepest condolences to the Thompson / Bickley Families hearing of Gary's passing, a long time and great co-worker as well as friend. Our thoughts and prayers are with you
Mike & Annette Pezzetti & Family

Michael Pezzetti - November 08, 2022 at 04:01 PM

RE

“ Gary's team at PW is so sad to hear of his passing. He was a great co-worker and, more importantly, a good friend to many of us. Our words cannot express how much we will miss him. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends during this difficult time.

*Our deepest condolences,
The Pratt & Whitney Hot Section GTF Project Team*

Rob Elliott - November 08, 2022 at 02:09 PM