



## Gerald Wayne Martin, Sr.

February 18, 1951 - December 8, 2020

Gerald "Jerry" Wayne Martin Sr. of Visalia passed away on December 8, 2020 at the age of 69. He was born in Visalia, California on February 18, 1951.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years Michele and his three children Jerry Jr. (wife Nicole), Franklin (wife Jeanette) and Emily all of Visalia who blessed him with six precious grandchildren: Audrey, Landon, Chelsea, Ryder, Gunner, and Beau. Also survived by a brother, Al Martin of Groveland and sisters, Diana Secada of Fresno and Jacque (husband Steve) McCarter of Visalia along with numerous nieces and nephews that loved him dearly. He was preceded in death by his parents Anthony Martin (father) and Alice Dufresne (mother).

In 1980, Jerry walked into the Whiskey River Saloon in Hayward, California and saw Michele who was working her first shift as cocktail waitress. He confidently walked up and said he was going to marry her. A short 10 months later, they were married and starting a family.

In 1985 he moved his little family to Visalia where he began doing odd jobs and mowing yards as he started GW Martin Lawn Care. He spent many years working endlessly building a business to support his family. Through the years, he acquired and grew a small engine repair business, Central Valley Small Engine Repair, where he worked tirelessly until he couldn't work anymore.

Jerry was a dedicated community volunteer through Visalia Optimist Club, Bikers 4 Kids, School Board, YMCA, PAL, Wish Upon A Star 50's Dance, and Emergency Aide as he began giving unselfishly to children and families in need.

His love for motorcycles took him on many trips throughout California making friends along the way. However, his favorite ride in life was that of being a "Vovo"... something he always dreamed about.

# Cemetery Details

## Visalia District Cemetery

1300 W Goshen Ave  
Visalia, CA 93291

# Previous Events

## Visitation

DEC 29. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel  
127 E. Caldwell Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93277

## Rosary

DEC 30. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (PT)

Holy Family Catholic Church  
1908 N. Court St.  
Visalla, CA

## Funeral

DEC 30. 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM (PT)

Holy Family Catholic Church  
1908 N. Court St.  
Visalla, CA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Gerald Wayne Martin, Sr.*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - December 28, 2020 at 08:12 PM

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“ *Michele, my deepest heartfelt thoughts of sympathy are sent to you and your family on the loss of Gerald. I remember when you were with the City and I was telling you I was having a problem with my lawn equipment and you told me your husband, Gerald could help me...I didn't know Gerald did that kind of work and he came to my rescue and got my equipment working good. Then I found out he was the grandson of Mrs. Elvera Cotta and his mother was Alice, Mrs. Cotta's daughter. It was a small world. I was glad to meet him and get to know him along with you. May, Gerald, rest in peace and I thank him for his friendship. I have been ill with a bad flu (not Covid) and can't make services. I'm doing so much better and have almost gained all my energy back. My thoughts are with you, Michele.*

*Blessings to you....Nancy Cunha*

Nancy Cunha - December 30, 2020 at 11:15 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gerald Wayne Martin, Sr..*



December 28, 2020 at 01:45 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gerald Wayne Martin, Sr..*



December 28, 2020 at 01:09 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Gerald Wayne Martin, Sr..



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December 28, 2020 at 11:24 AM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Gerald Wayne Martin, Sr..



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December 24, 2020 at 03:28 PM