



## Gerald Wayne Whistance

February 28, 1949 - October 14, 2014

Gerald Wayne Whistance, age 65, of Halfway, Missouri, passed away Sunday morning, October, 12, 2014 at Citizens Memorial Hospital, in Bolivar, Missouri.

Gerald was born on February 28, 1949, in San Jose California, to George and Bernyce (Langford) Whistance.

He was a Vocational Agriculture Instructor and FFA Advisor for thirty-three years. Gerald was very active in Lion's Club, the Senate Bill 40 Board, and the Hammons Walnut Board. He often volunteered with the Christian Builders, and the Bright Horizons Early Childhood Development Center. He was a Hunter Safety Instructor and a church Deacon.

Gerald was proud of his children's accomplishments, and those of his students. His desire was to be used by God as a Christian witness and influence to everyone with whom he came in contact. He was a servant.

Survivors include; his wife, Karen Whistance, of the home; son, Jeremy Whistance, of Columbia, Missouri; daughter, Carrie Whistance, of Halfway, Missouri; son, Jordan Whistance, of Halfway, Missouri; son Jarrett Whistance, of Columbia, Missouri; mother, Bernyce Whistance; sister, Dee Petty and husband, Art, of Springfield, Missouri; brother, David Whistance, and wife Nancy, of Lee's Summit, Missouri; brother, James Whistance, and wife Vickie, of Nixa, Missouri; sister, Jan Atwill, and husband, David, of Chadwick, Missouri; sister, Cathy Grote, of Belton, Missouri; brother, Mike Whistance, and wife Rhonda, of Hudson, Colorado; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his father, George Whistance.

A visitation will be held from 6-8:30 pm on Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at Butler Funeral Home, in Bolivar, Missouri.

Funeral Services will be held at 10:00 am on Wednesday, October 15, 2014, at Butler Funeral Home, Bolivar, Missouri, with burial to follow at Crestview Memorial Gardens, east of Bolivar, Missouri.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Halfway FFA at Halfway R-III School District, 2150 Hwy. 32, PO Box 98, Halfway, MO 65663.

PDF Printable Version

# Tribute Wall



“ Gerald Wayne Whistance

October 05, 2023 at 05:18 AM



“ Gerald Wayne Whistance

January 26, 2023 at 04:15 PM



“ What a blessing to so many he was. I thank God that I was fortunate enough to know him, have him as my teacher, and receive his blessings of encouragement, confidence, and courage in myself. Prayers for all of you. Love, Michele Roper-Shue (Shelly Wilson)

Michele Roper-Shue - October 16, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ Our sympathy goes out to the Whistance Family. We met Gerald when we moved to Half Way. Gerald was our son's Hunting Instructor and then Ag Advisor at Half Way. The boys enjoyed working with him and for him doing the Walnut Hulling. Anyone that knew Gerald benefitted greatly. He IS the GREATEST teacher Half Way has ever had. Family first and to Gerald, every student was a part of his family. He will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you Karen and your entire family during this difficult time. ~ The Whitney Family

Kent & Maggi Whitney - October 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ Karen and family,

*So sorry for your loss. He was a fine man and excellent teacher.*

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**Susie Stafford** - October 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ Gerald Wayne Whistance

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**Gail (Breshears) Suddath** - October 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ Karen and kids So sorry for your loss. Gerald was a great man and an awesome advisor. He taught many of us life lessons of hard work and determination. Prayers. Crystal Wilson

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**Crystal** - October 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SA

“ Gerald will be missed. He touched the lives of so many. He was always willing to anything, especially if it was for kids. When I was a young teacher, I knew I could always look to Gerald for advice (especially when it came to the Dairy Products CDE). He never once denied help or advice. I am thankful that I was fortunate enough to know Gerald.

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**Stan Adler** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ As a fellow Ag Teacher and friend you truly will be missed. I gained a vast amount of knowledge about Dairy Foods from Gerald and enjoyed the time competing in those contests.

*My prayers go out to the family*

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**Dennis Enke** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ *Rest in Peace good and faithful servant. You will be missed.*

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**Dan and Laurie Kercher** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GG

“ *Gerald was a great help to me as I started my Vo-Ag teaching career. He would offer advice or share resources and I appreciated talking to him about my challenges. He will be missed by so many.*

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**Greg Gentry** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *It is with heavy hearts that my family and I offer our condolences. I knew of Gerald but got to know him in 1979 my freshman year. He taught me countless things, many of which I have already passed to my children, and I know those things will continue on to their families. He set my oldest daughters future in motion through Halfway's Ag dept. and FFA chapter. His legacy will continue to touch lives far into the future. I am honored to have served 5 years with Gerald on the Halfway School Board. He was still teaching and I was still learning. I want to thank you and your family for the years you have sacrificed to share him with us. Please except my families many thoughts and prayers.*

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**David Foster family** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ *My prayers and thoughts go out to you. Mr. Whistance was the best AG teacher. He will be missed.*

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**Stephanie (Eversoll) Bone** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ We are so sorry for your families loss. Gerald held a very special place in us and our children's hearts as I'm sure he did in all of his former student's hearts as well. We will be praying for your family in this time of grief.

Sincerely,  
Dan & Gloria Kennedy

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**Dan & Gloria Kennedy** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BM

“ Gerald was certainly a leader in Ag Ed. And, I always enjoyed visiting with him about fescue seed.

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**Bob Denker California, Mo** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I am so sorry for your loss.

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**Jennifer (Wilson) Maples** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ So sorry for your loss. I waited on Gerald for many years @ Mid-MO Bk. He was a good man. Prayers for your family.

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**Melissa Crites** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CO

“ We were saddened to hear of your loss. Please know your family is in our thoughts and prayers.

Carl and Diane Olson

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**Carl and Diane Olson** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

J(

“ Our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Whistance. I was a student of his and his wife and graduated with his son Jordan. May the Lord bless your hearts in this time of healing. Take great comfort that he is home with the Lord and is pain free. Bless you all!

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**Jennifer Dodson (Williams)** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ With deepest sympathy. He was a great teacher and an even greater man! We will all miss his humor and his willingness to help.

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**The Kibby Family** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ Sorry for your loss. Your family is in my prayers. Gerald was a great man, wonderful teacher, and a true servant. He had a passion for his family, serving others, helping all students, and for promoting his love of agriculture. He will be missed.

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**Tiffany Kauffman** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ My condolences to the family. Gerald was a great leader in the aged family and he will be missed!

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**Leslie Burns Potter** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ I first met Gerald when he was a student teacher for Aurora Vo-Ag/FFA. Imagine my delight when 2 years later I was able to work with him when I was on staff at OEF and he was a livestock superintendent! From there -- nearly 30 years of working him and his students. He touched the lives of hundreds of young people! Always with a smile. Always with a gentle word. Always with encouragement.

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**Marla Calico** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ Randy & I are so sorry for your loss. Gerald was a great mentor to Randy and many other FFA Advisors across the area.

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**Rachel E Lightfoot** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ I met Gerald while working at the school as a school Resource Officer for the Polk County Sheriff's Office. I quickly found out how Gerald was a man of high character and one devoted to his students. Later I worked with him in his work with Relay For Life and the 4th of July Celebrations in Bolivar. His character continued to shine. It was a great pleasure to meet and work with Gerald.

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**Tony Bowers** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ I was so sorry to here of Gerald's passing. As a high school student I found him to be very passionate about his career, but most of all I had the great honor to get to know him as a teacher, mentor and all around good guy. May God's strength be with your family and may his memory be everlasting in the lives for which he touched.

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**Scott Long** - October 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ I am so sorry to hear of Gerald's passing. He was such a dedicated, selfless person and I am proud to have been part of the Bright Horizons Team that he fought so hard for and was one of his legacies. He enriched the lives of many.

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**Linda Marshall** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TK

“ So very sorry to hear about Gerald. I know my dad was so proud of Gerald and his career. May your family be comforted by our mighty and loving LORD.

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**Terry (Tinsley) Kleeman** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

EF

“ We always appreciated and admired Gerald and his family so much for their dedication to all the students and friends in and around Halfway. We are so sorry for your loss but also know Gerald was ready to go to his heavenly home. Prayers for your strength and comfort in the coming days. Love to all of you.

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**Estal Stewart family** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ We are so sorry to hear of Gerald's passing, we know he made a huge difference in so many people's lives, and touched ours too. Please know our thoughts and prayers are with you in this time.  
Love

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**Greg & Kim Bertz** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

WC

“ William and Teri (Holder) Campbell has sent this Expressions of Sympathy card.

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**William and Teri (Holder) Campbell** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ *Thoughts and prayers to all the family.*

Michelle (Pyle) Koger - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DE

“ *Sorry for your loss.He touched many lives.*

David & Debbie Eversoll - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *Gerald was not only my teacher, but my children as well. He inspired and encouraged several generations. It didn't matter how much time had past, you called us by name and always had time to talk a minute and ask how we were doing. Our prayers are with the family.*

Lynette Small - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TB

“ *thank you gerald for all you have done for our town.*

tommy bishop - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ *you truely were halfways saint. i cant thank you and karen enough for darlenias education and fror selling us our home. rest in peace. we love you.*

julie warnick - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ I was saddened this morning to read about Gerald's passing, but I'm not worried about where he is now. I've known Gerald for 38 years. What a legacy he leaves in the hearts and minds of the young men and women he taught and mentored! He was truly an icon in Halfway and the greater FFA/vo-ag community. I've never had greater respect for anyone.  
Jim Hamilton, Buffalo

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**Jim Hamilton** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ So sorry to hear of Gerald's passing. He was an amazing teacher and good friend. Steve and I always remembered that smile he had on his face everyday at school. You will truly be missed. Rest in Peace my dear friend. Sincerely, Steve and Theresa(Kite) Bowers

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**Stephen & Theresa Bowers** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

ED

“ You will be missed by so many, can't believe you are gone. Prayers for the rest of the family, to get through this rough time. May God be with you all.

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**Erin DeHart** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CR

“ What a great teacher and person. He will be greatly missed.

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**Cindy Bortvit Ross** - October 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RS

“ Thinking of the family at this time. Gerald was a good man and our children profited much from his teachings.

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**Robert and Lillian Steward** - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Gerald was a great man and mentor to countless young people. I am sorry for the family's loss.

Julie Turner-Crawford (Buffalo, Mo.) - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KW

“ I respected Gerald as a teacher and mentor. I am sorry for your loss I praying for your family

Kyle Whittaker - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ We were all saddened to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers with you all.

John McArthur Family - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ I was sorrowed to learn of Gerald's passing. He was always very professional in his work. I had such great respect for his abilities and caring nature. He was a man of great integrity and had a special place in his heart for each and every one of his students. The Ag-Ed community will miss him. DAT

David Twente - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

RB

“ My sympathy's go out to the Whistance family. I know Gerald touched the lives and hearts of many kids throughout his years of teaching. I am sure he will forever be missed and his time on this earth will truly be remembered.

Renee Brown - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ Sorry to see him go. Was such a good man and Ag teacher.

James Whitman - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ I am so sorry to hear about Gerald's passing. He was a man of tremendous integrity, and a passion for agriculture and for young people. As a former agriculture instructor, I had the benefit of his wisdom and kindness many times over the years and he was always ready with a gentle smile and helping hand. He will be sorely missed. A giant in the agricultural education community has gone home. God bless. JCM

Joe C. Moore - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ Very sorry for the family.He was one of Halfway's best teachers! He will be missed by many.

Lacey Snodgrass - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Proud to say I was one of Gerald's many students. It was always fun being in his class and on his team. He was a great inspiration to many. May God be with you all.

Jacque "Quillin" Roofener - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ You'll be remembered as a good man.

Katie Czajka - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ I was so blessed to have had God place Gerald as one of the people in my life walk. He was an inspriation of work ethic, fun, and Christian faith to me. He not only made an impact on his students but, to so many others who came into contact with him.

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**John and Susie Rummel** - October 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM