



Gary Russell

July 6, 1959 - October 17, 2021

Gary Wayne Russell, 62, of rural Bloomfield, Iowa passed away on October 17, 2021 at his home. He was born on July 6, 1959 in Oskaloosa, Iowa to Robert George and E. Irene Belzer Russell. Gary's family moved to Davis County when he was only two years old and he graduated from Davis County High School in 1977. He married Mary Mincks in August of 1985, and they were later divorced. He married Virginia Perry in 2005, and they were later divorced. On May 8, 2011 he married Rosalee Rudd Ernst.

Outside of working on a cattle ranch for a couple years, Gary lived his entire adult life in Davis County. He thoroughly loved Davis County and the many opportunities it granted him as Gary was a "Jack of all Trades." He worked as a farmer, mechanic, carpenter, and operated Quality Plus Feeds in Drakesville for several years. Gary was a talented singer and songwriter, often writing songs about his savior, Jesus. His love for Jesus called him to study and become a Cowboy Chaplain. That same passion called him to start a church, Farmers and Friends Worship of Davis County. He was a man of God.

Gary had many hobbies outside of work including; Shooting guns for target practice, going to Rutledge, Missouri to the flea market, watching and attending tractor pulls, tinkering on anything but especially old tractors, and making the world around him more beautiful with his gift of landscaping, carpentry, and a green thumb. His family was of the utmost importance to him

and he was proud of all his children. He will be greatly missed but forever in their hearts.

He is survived by his wife, Rosalee Russell; five children, Bill (Amy) Russell of Bloomfield, Joe Russell of Bloomfield, Amy Russell of Bloomfield, Rachel (Alan) Snow of Ottumwa, Iowa, Shelby (Abiel Matuz) Ernst of Bloomfield; nine grandchildren, Dalton Simmons, Leah Simmons, Jacob Pennington, Madison Russell, Alaya Flores, Charlotte Snow, Draven Snow, Henry Snow, Gabriel Matuz; two sisters, Carol (Paul Bly) Mertens of North Liberty, Iowa, Kay (Wayne) Engle of Appleton, Wisconsin; and a sister-in-law, Trish Russell of Albia, Iowa.

He was preceded in death by his parents; infant sister, Diane Russell; and brother, Robert Russell.

Funeral services will be at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 22, 2021 at the Wagler Funeral Home in Bloomfield with Pastors Phil Morrison and Danny Cary officiating. Burial will be at the Drakesville Cemetery. Visitation will begin at noon on Thursday with the family present to greet friends from 5-7:00 p.m. at the funeral home. A memorial has been established to Blessings Soup Kitchen in Ottumwa.

Cemetery Details

Drakesville Cemetery

Drakesville, IA 52552

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 21. 12:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home
304 West Jefferson Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
(641) 664-3421
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

Visitation with Family Present

OCT 21. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home
304 West Jefferson Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
(641) 664-3421
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Services

OCT **22**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Wagler Funeral Home
304 West Jefferson Street
Bloomfield, IA 52537
(641) 664-3421
<https://www.waglerfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Gary Russell*

January 28, 2023 at 10:57 AM



“ *I only heard today of Gary's passing and am deeply shocked and saddened by the news. Gary was larger than life in his smile, his laugh, his kindness and genuine great heart. My thoughts and prayers are with Rosalee and their family.*

Sammi Lamb - November 10, 2021 at 07:54 PM



“ *Our very deepest condolences to the family. Gary was a special person and a man of exceptional talents. His beautiful voice is resonating across the heavens as he sings with the angels. He will most truly be missed. As we will all treasure our memories of him.*

Gary and Donna Eaves

Gary and Donna Eaves - October 22, 2021 at 09:20 AM



“ *Rosalee, I'm so sorry to hear of your husband's sudden passing. I'm thinking of you and your family and sending prayers!*

Dia Welch

Dia Welch - October 21, 2021 at 04:12 PM

JL

“ *Such a great loss to Gary's family, friends, and the entire community. We will all remember Gary, his kindness, his generosity, his enormous musical talent, and his friendly, welcoming heart.*

Joye & Harold Lawson

Joye & Harold Lawson - October 20, 2021 at 03:33 PM

GE

Our very deepest condolences to the family. Gary was a special person and a man of exceptional talents. His beautiful voice is resonating across the heavens as he sings with the angels. He will most truly be missed. As we will all treasure our memories of him.

Gary and Donna Eaves

Gary and Donna Eaves - October 21, 2021 at 06:26 PM


Elysia
Raven

Too all the family i send my prayers fro strength and love . God has taken a good man home to sing in his choir . Comfort and peace .Pat Vang (Kays friend n Va. Beach.

Elysia Raven - October 22, 2021 at 03:35 PM

BM

“ *To the Family of Gary Russell. Sorry about your loss. He will be missed. He was ahead of me in school, He was a great guy, and He had a Beautiful singing voice. May God give you the comfort 🙏 you need 🙏 at this time. You are in my thoughts and Prayers*

Barbie Meredith - October 19, 2021 at 12:56 PM

BM

Rosalee- You are in our hearts and prayers. We knew you and Gary only a short time before we moved. But you both blessed and inspired us with your hospitality and love for Jesus. We'll see him on the other side. Love n prayers, Bill n Beth Mckeehan. ❤️🙏❤️

Beth Mckeehan - October 19, 2021 at 11:38 PM

GS

“ Georgia Stevens lit a candle in memory of Gary Russell



Georgia Stevens - October 19, 2021 at 12:51 PM

BM

“ To the Family of Gary Russell, So sorry for your loss. I knew who Gary was, he was ahead of me in school, a real nice guy and a Beautiful singer. I knew his Sister Kay. Rosalee I Pray that God will give you 🙏 the Peace and Comfort that you 🙏 need 🙏 at this 🙏 time. God Bless you 🙏.



Barbie Meredith - October 19, 2021 at 12:35 PM

LR

“ To the family of Gary's and the kids and his wife so sorry to hear about his pasting I will be missing him and his hugs and talks he was a good singer Lynn Robert's

Lynn roberts - October 19, 2021 at 09:03 AM

LR

“ Lynn Roberts lit a candle in memory of Gary Russell



Lynn roberts - October 19, 2021 at 08:59 AM

TS

“ Prayers for Rosalie and family at this time. Spent time with Gary in chorus and he had a beautiful voice. He is singing with the angels at this time for the Lord.

Doug and Theresa Stoker

Theresa Stoker - October 19, 2021 at 07:56 AM

RC

“ Gary always had a smile 😊 and a hug or handshake .He will.be missed by many.rest in peace my friend .prayers for the family. 🙏🙏

Rebecca Coyne - October 19, 2021 at 12:48 AM

DC

“ So sorry for your loss. Gary was a kind and caring person. He's with his Lord and Savior now.



Dixie coy - October 18, 2021 at 11:11 PM

DC

“ Dixie Coy lit a candle in memory of Gary Russell



Dixie coy - October 18, 2021 at 11:10 PM

DC

So sorry for your loss.

Dixie coy - October 18, 2021 at 11:12 PM

HC

*So sorry for your loss. Was friends with his mother Irene and grandmother Verna back before they moved to Davis County. Heard his beautiful voice once sat a Special in Chillicothe
Harold Belzer was my husband's uncle. May God give your family peace.*

Helen Cook - October 30, 2021 at 06:37 PM

EG

“ Edward Regina Gooden lit a candle in memory of Gary Russell



Edward Regina Gooden - October 18, 2021 at 10:10 PM

MA

“ So very sorry to hear of your loss ❤️ Gary was a wonderful man, classmate and friend. Gary always tried to bring joy to others. I know he'll be singing in heaven. My thoughts and prayers sent to all his family. May you feel peace and comfort as you go through this time. ✨🙏❤️

Martha - October 18, 2021 at 08:37 PM



“ Steve Lowe lit a candle in memory of Gary Russell



Steve Lowe - October 18, 2021 at 08:36 PM



I hung out with Gary when i was younger so sorry for your loss

Steve Lowe - October 18, 2021 at 08:37 PM



Sorry

Steve Lowe - October 18, 2021 at 08:37 PM


SU

“ *We are so sorry for your family. Gary was a good guy. Our thoughts and prayers are with you*



susan - October 18, 2021 at 06:53 PM

MH

“ *So Sorry to hear of the families loss of Gary*

He will never be forgotten. We had him sing "I Swear" @ our wedding in 1995 💖 Beautiful voice, Beautiful soul.
May God's Love help comfort all of you. 🙏💖



Mark and Nancy Holt - October 18, 2021 at 06:01 PM