



## Gerard J. Dols

September 8, 1960 - December 16, 2024

Gerard Joseph Dols, age 64, died Monday, December 16, 2024, at Hilltop Care Center in Watkins, MN. A memorial service will be at 11:00 a.m. Monday, April 28, 2025, at River of Life Church in Cold Spring, MN. Visitation will be from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the church. Inurnment was at Sts. Peter & Paul Cemetery at an earlier date. The service will be live streamed at [www.riveroflife.org](http://www.riveroflife.org).

Gerard was born on September 8, 1960, to Germain (Jerry) and Charlene (Metzger) Dols in Sauk Centre, MN and grew up in the Richmond area. He attended Richmond Catholic School and graduated from Rocori High School in 1979. He was very adventurous after high school, moved to California (hitchhiked) at 18, not knowing anyone there; then on to Tulsa, Oklahoma; on to North Carolina and finally stopping in the Minneapolis area where he became a chaplain for the Salvation Army. Gerard was very PROUD and HONORED to help a lot of people thru prayer. He had many hardships in his life, from stays at Gillette Hospital (many of them at a very young age) to a courageous 5-year battle with cancer later on in life. Gerard always loved Jesus and prayed all the time; he was a very religious man even though his life was not easy, he stayed strong!! WE ALL LOVE YOU!! A quote from a nephew on Facebook after his death: "TOUGH POST TO SHARE - How do you describe someone who - on the one hand - led an amazing, unbelievable & memorable life. While on the other hand - spent pretty much every day of

his life in some sort of pain, whether it be physical, emotional or spiritual. He wasn't supposed to be anybody. A handicap kid with Cerebral Palsy who grew up in a small town Minnesota. Boy, did he turn into somebody, a somebody for many people in many places. I'm reminded of the DR Suess line – 'Oh, the places you'll go!!' He definitely got his fill of life. And when I think of him.... his life.... and bring myself back to my initial question - how do you describe someone like him?? I keep coming back to what I've been saying about him for my whole adult life – When you meet Gerard - you'll NEVER FORGET HIM!! Rest in peace Uncle Gerard!!"

Gerard is survived by brothers, Michael (Mar), David (Bonnie), Daniel (Linda), Paul (Pam); many nieces, nephews, and loyal friends.

Gerard was preceded in death by his parents (2018 & 2022) and brother, Gregory (1994).

The family would like to THANK EVERYONE who was a friend of Gerard and also the care personnel that took care of him, especially the staff at Hilltop Care Center in Watkins, MN and hospice for expert and COMPASSIONATE CARE !!!!

# Cemetery Details

## Sts. Peter & Paul Parish Cemetery

Richmond, MN 56368

# Previous Events

## Visitation

APR 28. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

River of Life  
22881 178th Ave  
Cold Spring, MN 56320  
(320) 597-7777

## Memorial Service

APR 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

River of Life  
22881 178th Ave  
Cold Spring, MN 56320  
(320) 597-7777

# Tribute Wall

AB

“ Ashley and the Becker’s planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerard J. Dols.

Ashley and the Becker’s - April 25, 2025 at 08:41 AM

AB

“ Ashley and the Becker’s purchased the Dish Garden with Fresh Cut Flowers for the family of Gerard J. Dols.



Ashley and the Becker’s - April 25, 2025 at 08:41 AM



“ I’ve known Gerard for many years . I had his number and called him on the phone when I could . I had no idea that he had passed until today. I texted his number a couple days ago because I hadn’t heard from him in a while . He will be missed

Joel McGarvey Jr. - March 30, 2025 at 09:14 AM

DO

“ Rest in Peace with our lord Jesus Christ

Dominik - February 12, 2025 at 11:55 AM

JW

“ Our sympathy to the Dols family in the loss of Gerard. God bless and comfort you. John and Connie Wimmer

John Wimmer - December 27, 2024 at 09:12 AM

DO

“ *I was so sad to learn of Gerard's passing. I worked with Gerard for over ten plus years. He was a man of deep faith and the Lord was number one in his life. I miss our weekly visits. RiP my friend. May you now be walking on streets of gold in the presence of the Lord.*  
*Diane Overby*



---

**Diane Overby** - December 20, 2024 at 01:59 AM