



## Gaylord "Gale" Willis Chapin

November 4, 1942 - March 9, 2019

Gaylord "Gale" Willis Chapin. 1942-2019. Gale passed away peacefully in his sleep after a short battle with cancer. Gale was born to Verna Kondek, November 4, 1942, in Emporium Pennsylvania. After graduating from Emporium High School, he went on to pursue higher education at the University of Texas A&I at Kingsville where he completed his Bachelor's Degree, and then went on to complete a Master's Degree in Engineering.

Gale served in the United States Army for 30 years, during which he served in the Vietnam War. He retired at the rank of Major. Gale went on to become the Director of Plans and Operations at the Army facility Dugway Proving Grounds, where he worked for 27 years until his retirement. He loved working there with some of the best people on Earth. Gale was a proud supporter of Dugway High School Basketball and his friend (and their coach), George Bruce. Gale is survived by his only son James Chapin (Kimberly), honorary son Grady Orr, and his grandchildren Kallie Bug Jones, and Caeleb Chapin. His dog Bella was his faithful companion who stayed by his side until the end. We are grateful to the condominium community where he has lived for the that year and acknowledge all that they did to welcome him. We would also like to extend our gratitude for the love and professional care he received at Avalon Care Centering Bountiful Utah, the staff made his last few weeks pleasant. A special mention of thanks to Bart in the PT department for keeping him going and for giving him something to look forward to.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Best Friends Animal Society

<https://support.bestfriends.org>.

# Comments

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“ Gale you will be missed!! He was my supervisor when I moved from Japan. By far the best one I ever had!!! I loved that he always put people in their place and wouldn't back down. He was a bulldog and I loved that about him. He always made me feel like a part of the team and was a mentor and father figure for a lot of us at Dugway. He always protected his cubs!

**Collette Helmka** - March 19 at 07:31 AM

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“ So sorry to learn of Gale's passing. My condolences to Jamie, Grady and their families. Gale was a very notable presence during my high school years. He would be at virtually all of the Dugway High School games and was so visible throughout the community. I fondly recall him taking tickets and critiquing the officials at all of the home basketball games. One of my favorite memories was turning 21 and going with Gale and my father to Wendover. Gale generously gave me a present of \$21 dollars which I quickly handed over to the Stateline. He was generous, kind, and just a great person for our small community. He will be missed.

**Scott Bruce** - March 18 at 08:35 PM

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“ Gale was a good mentor for my son when he worked as a summer hire. He supported many sporting events as well. May he rest in peace. Paula Thomas

**Paula Thomas** - March 18 at 07:16 PM

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“ Gale Chapin was well known throughout Dugway Proving Ground, where he worked for many years until his retirement in 2012. Many Dugway residents and workers have an anecdote about him; he will be missed.

**Al Vogel** - March 18 at 03:06 PM

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“ My condolences to Gales family. Gale was such a hoot to work with (on Dugway). He was so witty and sharp and most the time I just never knew what he'd say next. I'm so glad that he was in a community that took care of his needs. He was such a strong independent person so I'm sure it was tough, but I'm certain he felt well taken care of. He was already missed when he retired but now, even more so.

**Denise Madron** - March 18 at 11:45 AM



“ Gail did more professionally than almost any of my divisional support group. God Bless you Gail, you were truly one of my favorite people at Dugway. Rest in Peace my friend.

**Charles ( Charlie) Davis.** - March 15 at 08:08 PM

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“ What sad news to hear of Gale's passing. I worked with him at Dugway for 30 years. He was an ornery but lovable and kind man with a soft heart that few got to see. I was very lucky to see that side of him. My condolences to his son and family. I pray that your memories see you through this sad time. Cindi and Scotty Hawkins

**Cindi Hawkins** - March 14 at 09:59 PM

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“ Hi. I worked with Gale for several years at Dugway. Sorry to hear of his passing.

Deanna Terry

**Deanna** - March 14 at 07:45 PM