



Leslie H Gingrich

May 7, 1942 - June 9, 2024

Leslie H. Gingrich, age 82 of Herscher passed away on Sunday, June 9, 2024, at Courtyard Estates in Herscher. He was born on May 7, 1942, in Streator, IL, the son of Howard and Pauline (Cook) Gingrich. Leslie was raised on a farm northwest of Ransom, IL.

Leslie attended Ransom Grade School, Streator Township High School from 1957 until the time of his graduation in 1960. He attended Illinois Valley Community College from 1967 to 1969. Leslie graduated in 1971 with a Bachelor of Education Degree from Illinois State University. He continued his education at Illinois State University completing his Master of Education Degree in 1973.

Leslie was a proud veteran of the United States Army having served from 1964-1966. Also, serving in the military police. He was a member of the Herscher American Legion Post 795.

Leslie was a member of the Kankakee County Farm Bureau.

Leslie taught at Herscher High School for thirty-three years before retiring in 2006. While at Herscher High School he taught Physical Science, General Science, World Geography, and Political Science. He was devoted to helping anywhere he was needed at the school. Some of those activities were: 30 years of filming all levels of football games, 25 years of scorekeeping at all levels of boys' basketball, 35 years of IHSA and IESA Track and Cross-Country officiating, and 30 years of both route and extra trip bus driving. Leslie was the voice of the National Anthem at various school activities.

Leslie was a member of the Asbury United Methodist Church, Kankakee. He sang in the church choir and served on various committees.

Leslie was a member of the Illinois Track and Cross-Country Official Association and Illinois Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame as a "Friend of Basketball."

Surviving is one sister, Patricia Novotney of Normal, IL; two nephews, Shawn (Alexandria) Novotney of St. Charles, IL, Scott (Megan) Novotney of Bloomington, IL; one great nephew, Kyle Novotney of St. Charles, IL, and one great niece, Lauren Novotney of Bloomington, IL.

Leslie is preceded in death by his parents; one brother-in-law, Ronald Novotney; many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Visitation will be held from 10:00 a.m. until the time of the noon funeral service, on Thursday, June 13, 2024, at Schreffler Funeral Homes, Kankakee. Interment will be at the Russian Orthodox Cemetery, Streator, IL.

Memorials may be made to Herscher High School.

Cemetery Details

Russian Orthodox Cemetery

East 19th Road
Streator, IL 61364

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 13. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Funeral Service

JUN 13. 12:00 PM (CT)

Schreffler Funeral Home - Kankakee Chapel
1900 W. Court St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
(815) 932-2421
<https://www.schrefflerfuneralhomes.com/>

Tribute Wall

KI

“ Kyle Justin ISENHART lit a candle in memory of Leslie H Gingrich



Kyle Justin ISENHART - June 12, 2024 at 09:47 PM

LW

“ I loved Mr. Gingrich. He instilled my love of history in me. I ended up majoring in History because of him. Great teacher with a wicked sense of humor. He made history interesting and made learning it fun.

Linda Wagner - June 12, 2024 at 04:26 PM

JH

“ I knew Les through singing with him in the Asbury United Methodist Chancel Choir. He had a nice tenor voice and great personality. He participated in many of the annual Madrigal shows. He will be a welcomed member of God's heavenly choir.

Joyce Henderson

Joyce Henderson - June 11, 2024 at 09:54 PM

JK

“ Mr. Gingrich was an awesome teacher. He was such a great person. He was so involved with the school. He sang at my wedding. He will be greatly missed.

Julie Anne Koval - June 11, 2024 at 08:14 AM

CS

“ *Cindy Austin Chaffee (old Student) lit a candle in memory of Leslie H Gingrich*



Cindy Austin Chaffee (old student) - June 10, 2024 at 10:39 PM

CS

*Mr Gingrich was one of my teachers at HHS he was a good teacher and a kind man.
Cindy Austin Chaffée*

Cindy Austin Chaffee (old student) - June 10, 2024 at 10:41 PM

MD

“ *Mr. Gingrich was my teacher at HHS. His classes were great! He made learning fun and educational.
Mary Coffman Dressler*



Mary Coffman Dressler - June 10, 2024 at 07:32 PM

SB

“ *It was my pleasure to take care of Les for the time he was at Harvest View. He will be missed*



Sherry Bowen - June 10, 2024 at 07:15 PM

KT

“ *Les will be missed by many. He was a great guy and an outstanding teacher.*

Rest in peace and sing the Lord's praise in heaven.

Karen Thurston - June 10, 2024 at 06:25 PM