



Gilbert U. "Gib" Graber

August 23, 1926 - January 25, 2025

Mineral Point – Gilbert U. “Gib” Graber, age 98, of Mineral Point, died peacefully on Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Greenway Manor in Spring Green. Gib was born to Urban and Blanche (Biddick) Graber on August 23, 1926.

Gib married the love of his life, Audrey Jewell, on July 26, 1952. Together they had six children.

Gib was a WW II veteran, serving 18 months in the US Navy, despite his inability to swim. After returning from war, he hitchhiked from Chicago to Mineral Point. He and his mom met with a huge hug as they ran to one another on the farm road to be reunited. Together they listened to WGN radio and that’s where his love of Chicago sports teams was born. Gib and Audrey attended many Cubs games and the Annual Die Hard Chicago Cubs Fan Convention in Chicago annually, as long as they were able to attend.

Gib farmed the earth his entire life. He also drove school bus for the Mineral Point School District for decades until he retired. He transported generations of families. He drove (and fed!) the sporting teams and also “coached” a little alongside his dear friend, Ron Murphy. Gib gave every child on his bus \$1 for their birthday. He also gifted them plastic farm animals for their toy barns at home.

Gib also had a love for horses and harness racing. He raced his horses at the local fairs and Quad City Downs. He even named two of his winners after himself and his mother, Gib and Blanche’s Beauty.

Gib is survived by his children, Greg, Tim (Carol), Teresa (Al) Brown, Dan (Pam), Laurie, and Diane (Mike) Nice; his beloved sister, Ruth Ann Neff; and many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 12: 00 p.m. on Saturday, February 1, 2025 at Ss. MARY & PAUL CATHOLIC CHURCH in Mineral Point. Visitation will be held from

9:00 - 11:50 a.m. on Saturday at the church. Burial will be held at St. Mary's Cemetery, with Military Graveside rites accorded by the Mineral Point American Legion Post No. 170.

The family would request everyone attending to wear Cubs, Bears, Pointers attire, if possible.

Special thanks to his outstanding care team, Dr. Gordon Grieshaber, Chelsey Wallace Bowden, Kristen May, Nikki Ray, Sherry Ray, Sarah Kieffer, Agrace, the Veterans Administration, and the compassionate staff at Greenway Manor for their exceptional care he received while there. Lastly, the family would like to give a special thank you to granddaughter Cory Lynn Bennett for her dedication and compassionate care of Gramps the last five years and also would like to thank the Gorgen Funeral Home and Father Alex for the service.

Cemetery Details

Graceland Cemetery

800 Fair Street
Mineral Point, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 1. 9:00 AM - 11:50 AM (CT)

St. Mary's & St. Paul's Catholic Church
224 Davis St
Mineral Point, WI 53565-1113
(608) 987-2026

Mass of Christian Burial

FEB 1. 12:00 PM (CT)

Ss. Mary & Paul Catholic Church
224 Davis Street
Mineral Point, WI 53565

Military Graveside Rites

FEB 1. 12:50 PM (CT)

St. Mary's Cemetery
700 Dodge Street
Mineral Point, WI

Tribute Wall

KC

“ Karen C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gilbert U. "Gib" Graber.

Karen C. - January 31, 2025 at 12:07 PM

MH

“ I worked for the DMV for many years and got to know Gib when he came in for his school bus tests. He always brought a smile to my face. I do remember him being a big Cubs fan. Mary Jo Hennessy

Mary Jo Hennessy - January 30, 2025 at 01:17 PM



“ A Full Life was purchased for the family of Gilbert U. "Gib" Graber.



January 30, 2025 at 10:27 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gilbert U. "Gib" Graber.



January 29, 2025 at 02:21 PM



“ So sorry to hear of Gib's passing. Gib and my dad attended a lot of Monroe Basketball games together and I knew we always had a chance to win those! Pat Murphy

Pat Murphy - January 29, 2025 at 01:44 PM

BF

“ On behalf of the Badger Honor Flight Board and all our volunteers, we extend our deepest condolences to you all, the family of Gilbert Graber. We are forever grateful for his service to our great country. What an honor it was for us to take him on his well-deserved trip of a lifetime. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Badger Honor Flight - January 29, 2025 at 12:45 PM

RM

“ Sending my sympathy to all of Gib's family in your loss of a unique gentleman.
Rosalie R. May

Rosalie R. May - January 28, 2025 at 12:37 PM

TL

“ Diane, I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your dad. I can only imagine how difficult this must be for you. Please let me know if I can do anything for you. You and your family are in my thoughts during this hard time.

Tricia Louis - January 27, 2025 at 09:07 AM

TP

My sincerest sympathies. It's been a pleasure getting to know Gib and you while visiting at Greenway. You kids were so devoted to your dad, you could feel the love you had for one another. Your kindness to the staff, residents and visitors at Greenway will surely be missed. Especially by us!
God Bless
Greg and Terri Pardee

Terri Pardee - January 27, 2025 at 04:02 PM

BJ

So sorry to hear of Gib's passing. He was a true gentleman and I enjoyed him driving many of my teams to meets and games. A real "character" in the nicest sense of the word.

Bob Johnson - January 31, 2025 at 04:36 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gilbert U. "Gib" Graber.



January 27, 2025 at 08:58 AM