



## Eugene "Gene" Hanover

May 5, 2025

In Loving Memory of Eugene "Gene" Hanover

Eugene "Gene" Hanover passed away peacefully at home in Moses Lake, Washington, on May 5, 2025, at the age of 81, after a courageous battle with a long illness. Born at Wyoming General Hospital in Rock Springs, Wyoming, Gene lived a full, passionate life rooted in love, service, and unwavering dedication to his family and community.

Gene is preceded in death by his beloved mother Twila Harris, his grandparents Flora Gross and Charles Emerson Parsons, his cherished sister Cathy Smith, and his adopted great-grandson Ari Nelson. Though they have gone before him, their memories were held close in Gene's heart every day.

He leaves behind his devoted wife and the love of his life, Viola Hanover, with whom he shared a deep and enduring bond. Gene often expressed that he didn't know what he would do without her, and his greatest desire was always for her

to be cared for and loved. He is also survived by his loving siblings: brothers Allen Smith and Will Harris, and sister Annie Harris.

A proud and loving father, Gene is survived by his children:

Son Paul Hanover, his wife Mica, their children John, Scarlett, Cazzie and her daughter Eliora, and Heather.

Son Richard Hanover, his wife Mary, and their children Megan, Molly, London, and Aundreas.

Daughter Michelle (Hanover) Juarez, her husband Elijah, and their sons Isiah, Trystan and wife Arye, Baily and wife Baily Nicole, and Jadon.

He also shared his heart with his extended family:

Adopted grandson Steve Nelson, his wife Kyli, and their beautiful children Aven, Marley,

Zeppelin, Lane, and Rylie.

Adopted daughter Ida Garrett, her husband Mark, and their children: John Alexander and wife Kayla (with great-grandson Ronan), Madison Leckenby and husband Cody (with great-grandson Tatum), and grandson Hayden Garrett.

Born in Rock Springs and raised in Eastern Washington, Gene spent his youth working on a ranch, participating in 4H and rodeo, and learning the value of hard work. He became a certified welder—once welding his own horse trailer—and found joy in swing dancing with his mother, teaching others to dance, restoring classic cars, and admiring old tractors. He was endlessly curious and loved learning about other cultures and customs.

A 1964 graduate of Moses Lake High School, Gene was drafted into the military shortly thereafter. He served his country faithfully from

1965 through the 1990s in multiple branches: the U.S. Army, Army Reserves, Marine Reserves, Air National Guard, and Moses Lake Police Reserves. He was also a proud member of the Tactical Response Team and Hanford Patrol, contributing to the safety and strength of his community.

Though he often admitted he wasn't perfect, Gene strove to be a cycle breaker—a devoted, loving father and a firm but fair provider. His integrity, humility, and sense of responsibility shaped the lives of those around him.

Gene's faith became a cornerstone later in life. As a member of the Knights of Columbus, he cherished the opportunity to teach and mentor young people in religious classes, always offering his time and heart to others.

He was known for his big personality—gregarious, generous to a fault, and full of humor. He never met a stranger, often striking up conversations that brought joy to others. A

perfectionist at heart, Gene continually worked to improve himself and live out the values he believed in—kindness, patience, and generosity.

In his younger years, he ran marathons, taught self-defense, and loved physical fitness. He found joy in family walks, singing drill sergeant cadence songs, and passing on his love of marksmanship. Time at the shooting range with his children was never just about skill—it was about bonding, safety, and love. He was an avid hunter, fisherman, and sports enthusiast, and refereeing soccer with Viola brought him tremendous joy.

Gene also had a deep love for travel, especially when shared with Viola. Together, they explored new places and formed lasting friendships wherever they went.

A funeral Mass will be held at Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church in Moses Lake, WA, on May 20, 2025, at 10:00 AM. For those who cannot attend in person, the service will be

livestreamed on Facebook—search Our Lady of Fatima Moses Lake WA and follow the link to Eugene Hanover’s service.

Gene’s life was a testament to resilience, loyalty, love, and faith. He will be missed deeply and remembered always.

# Previous Events

## Mass

MAY **20**. 10:00 AM (PT)

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church  
200 N. Dale Road  
Moses Lake, WA

# Tribute Wall



“ *Trina Alfaro lit a candle in memory of Eugene Hanover*



Trina Alfaro - June 02, 2025 at 07:27 PM



“ *A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Eugene "Gene" Hanover.*



May 20, 2025 at 02:05 AM



“ *Sam Lorenz sent a virtual gift in memory of Eugene Hanover*



Sam Lorenz - May 15, 2025 at 04:06 PM



“ *dont forgett he work at big bend*

Darrell Templeton - May 12, 2025 at 04:53 PM

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“ *he was a great person to work with at big bend* ”



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**Darrell Templeton** - May 12, 2025 at 04:46 PM