



Gerald Moenster

July 4, 1949 - October 11, 2025

Gerald Alan “Jerry” Moenster, of Dittmer, Missouri, passed away on October 11, 2025, at the age of 76, after a life devoted to his Lord, education, family, and service. He was baptized into the redeeming blood of Christ, making him a Christian and follower of Jesus. He was a member of the Kirkwood Church of Christ.

Born on July 4, 1949, in St. Louis, Missouri, Jerry was the beloved son of the late Dorothy Louise (Hotfelder) the late John Francis Moenster, and the late Vera Moenster (step-mother). After his mother’s passing, he lived for one year with his uncle and aunt, the late Tom Kennedy and the late Stella Kennedy. He was preceded in death by his parents, John and Dorothy Moenster; step-mother, Vera Moenster; brother, Jack Moenster; brothers-in-law, Bob Bauer and Mike Sutter; and sister-in-law, Annie Moenster.

Gerald was a devoted husband to Ginger C. (née Pekins) Moenster, and a proud father to Christopher (Shannon) Moenster, Todd (Cherie) Moenster, and Jamie (Christopher Weyer) Moenster. He was a loving grandfather to Chrystal Lee and Alexander Moenster. He is survived by his siblings, David Moenster, Sandy Bauer, Mary Sutter, and his in-laws Dora Moenster, Janice and Doug Tellingheusen, Tim Perkins, and Jody and Dan Huck. Additionally, he is survived by numerous nieces, nephews, great nieces, great nephews, and great-grandnephews.

Gerald’s life was marked by a steadfast dedication to education and leadership. He served in various roles throughout his career including:

teacher, coach, principal, and superintendent. He left a lasting positive impact on countless students and colleagues. He taught at several schools, including McKinley High School and Riverview Gardens High School. He was the first principal at Grandview High School, and later served as superintendent. After retiring from Grandview, he became the Director of Human Resources at Collinsville Community Unit School District #10. He coached track, cross country, and soccer. He focused on inspiring young people both in the classroom and on the field.

As a young man, Jerry attained the rank of Eagle Scout and spent many summers working as a counselor at various Boy Scout camps.

Outside of his professional life, Jerry had a wide range of interests. He was passionate about collecting and restoring old cars. Going to car shows and swap meets were happy times for him. In 2008 he started creating license plate art, a hobby he enjoyed for years to come. He loved fishing, watching sports, and world history. He was an excellent mechanic and handy-man who kept all the cars running and constantly worked on his home and property. He was a longtime fan of the Indianapolis 500. He attended over 30 races and was a ticket holder until passing them on to family.

In lieu of flowers and in honor of his legacy and love of learning, donations may be made to the Jerry Moenster Memorial Scholarship Fund, FSCB PO Box 826 Hillsboro, MO 63050. Donation envelopes will be available at the visitation and funeral.

Visitation will be held Friday, November 14th from 5pm to 9pm at the Grandview R2 Highschool, 11470 State Highway C Hillsboro Missouri. A funeral service will be held at the same location on Saturday, November 15th at 10am.

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV **14.** 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM (CT)

Grandview High School
11470 Hwy C
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Memorial Service

NOV **15.** 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Grandview High School
11470 Hwy C
Hillsboro, MO 63050

Tribute Wall

DR

“ *Mr.Moenster was a really good soul. His compassion for education and coaching was top notch. I remember him greeting everyone in the hall in the morning and end of day in High school. I’m really glad I got to see him a few years back at a memorial service for a fellow friends mom. He will forever be remembered.*

Deanna Rios(Johnston) - November 13, 2025 at 12:31 PM

TB

“ *Coach brought out the best in everyone, especially me. He was always the first to praise someone on a good performance. He always seemed like the most excited person on the race course. When I had a poor performance in a race or just in life, I felt like I disappointed him more than anyone else. That’s how much I respected him and that’s how much I felt like he cared. Gonna miss that smile.*

Tim Brown - November 12, 2025 at 06:18 PM

LB

“ *Coach Moenster was our XC coach at Riverview High. He treated us with respect, and he earned ours with his sincerity, humor, and dedication to our team. He was an inspiration.*

Larry Bohs - October 28, 2025 at 08:37 PM

SL

“ *Inspiration to hundreds of runners and students over the years. Also raised really great kids. He will be missed*

Scott Lockhart - October 23, 2025 at 07:46 PM

JD

Loved and so respected Coach Moenster, the "Golden Age" of high school track & XC coaches by far

Jon C Delano - October 24, 2025 at 10:11 PM

T1

“ *Mr Moenster was my home room teacher as well as my driver's Ed teacher at Riverview Gardens. He was always so patient while we were all in the car. My condolences to his family.*

Tammy Wisecarver Miles c/o 1979 - October 21, 2025 at 02:27 PM

TK

“ *My brother used to host annual Riverview cross country reunions and everyone would gather around the very personable Coach Moenster. His runners loved the man, and he loved them! I didn't run cross country, but he always made me feel special too, asking me specifics about the Riverview soccer team I had played for and how my friends were doing, etc. What a man and what a smile! Tim Kickham*

Tim Kickham - October 21, 2025 at 11:57 AM

TK

“ Jerry Moenster was Coach Moenster to all of us who ran for him during his Riverview years. And, I do not use the phrase 'ran for him' carelessly. This was a man you wanted to please because he had your back in his belief in you, his positivity towards you...ALWAYS. Coach never had mixed up priorities. He wanted US to win but he wanted that for US for the sheer fun of it and the confidence that comes with it that can be applied to endeavors in other areas of life. Coach gave us the tremendous balance of being relaxed while always giving us the security that things were being taken care of, the balance of being one of us while also being the adult. Coach never spoke to me about God but I saw God in him in more than any other person I had been around to that point. My mom, 87 years old in assisted living with spotty memory, still can come through to this day in remembering coach. She reveres him for what he did for me. Every young person, regardless of their co curricular or especially if they didn't have one to hang their hat on, should have a Coach Moenster in their life. Tom Kickham

Tom Kickham - October 20, 2025 at 02:55 PM

CG

Nice tribute for a very nice man. RIP...

Chris Griffey - October 23, 2025 at 01:46 PM

TL

“ I grew up around the block from Jerry and his brother and sisters. Such fine people. Jerry was always upbeat and funny. Just a cool guy.

Tina Lombardo - October 19, 2025 at 10:00 AM