

Gary L. Arnold, Elkhart, 76, died Thursday, July 23, 2026, at Goshen Hospital, unexpectedly from a brief illness.

He was born on May 18, 1950, to Levi and Kathryn (Bowers) Arnold in Elkhart County. On May 14, 1983, he married Pauline Geiser at Elkhart City Church of the Brethren.

She survives, along with their children, Laurie (Daniel) King of Dekalb, Illinois, Mark Arnold of Jersey City, New Jersey, and Brian (Kaylee) Arnold of Elkhart; and grandchildren, Trinity, Zoey, Jordan, Maddison, and Zane; and several nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sisters Eloine Theobald and Carol Roberts.

Gary devoted 39 years of his career to Church World Service. He managed the organization's film media library and later served as its webmaster until his retirement in 2014.

A talented photographer, Gary had a gift for capturing life's special moments through his camera. He faithfully served as director of the Media Center at Elkhart City/Creekside Church of the Brethren, a role that reflected one of his lifelong passions.

Music was another lifelong passion. He enjoyed playing the trombone, guitar, and piano. He played in band since he was a teenager and played all through high school and college. Christmas was his favorite time of year, and he eagerly looked forward to it each year. His favorite hymn was "O Holy Night," which held a special place in his heart and beautifully reflected the joy and reverence he felt during the Christmas season. He also had a lifelong love of Disney films and musicals.

Traveling was one of his greatest pleasures, especially Hawaii, where he and Pauline visited many times together.

Above all, Gary cherished his family, including his special cats who brought him companionship and joy throughout the years. He especially loved spending time with his grandchildren and creating long-lasting memories together.

Gary's body will be laid to rest at Violett Cemetery on July 27, 2026 followed by a memorial service at 3 p.m. at Creekside Church of the Brethren. Pastor Rosanna McFadden will officiate. Memorial contributions may be directed to Creekside Church.

Celebration of Life

Gary L. Arnold

May 18, 1950 – July 23, 2026



Creekside Church of the Brethren

July 27, 2026, 3:00 pm

Celebration of Life

Gary L. Arnold

Prelude: recording

"O Holy Night"

Welcome

Pastor Rosanna

***Call to Worship:** (responsive, from Psalm 104)

Leader: May God's glory endure forever!

**People: God has stretched out the heavens like a tent
And laid the foundations of the earth.**

Leader: In God's wisdom all things have been created;
Through God the world is filled with good things.

**People: We have been created by God's spirit,
And when our breath is gone, we return to dust.**

Leader: We will rejoice in the works of the Lord,
And proclaim the glory which endures forever.

**ALL: Let us sing praise to the Lord as long as we live.
Amen!**

***Opening Hymn:** 250 Renew

"How great thou art"

***Opening Prayer**

Sharing from Scripture

Sharing About Gary

Hymn: 193 blue Hymnal

"Silent night"

Sharing from Friends and Family

Solo:

"The Lord's Prayer"

Meditation

Pastor Rosanna

Closing Hymn: recording

"Amazing grace"

***Benediction**

Participants

Pastor: Rosanna McFadden

Pianist: Diane Lund

Chorister: Steve Barton

Media: Creekside volunteers

Ushers: Creekside friends

Meal: Deana Ward, Betty Snyder, friends