



## Mr. Azie "Ace" Gatlen

December 25, 1946 - November 11, 2019

Mr. Azie "Ace" Lonzell Gatlen, 72, of Peoria, IL, passed away peacefully at 8:27 a.m. on Monday, November 11, 2019 at UnityPoint Health Methodist surrounded by his family.

Azie was born on December 25, 1946, in Mounds, IL to Bennie and Elsie (Marks) Gatlen. He is a 1964 graduate of Crane High School in Chicago, IL where he played football. It was also where he met his future wife, Ada (Connor). They were married August 1, 1969.

Azie served our country during the Vietnam War. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army in 1996 after having received multiple commendations, including a Bronze Star. He retired as a member of the Army Reserves in 2004. Azie was a professional truck driver, his attention to safety and his road courtesy awarded him membership in Preston Trucking Company's Million Mile Club. He was retired from the Peace Brothers Motorcycle Club and was a member of the American Legion Post 1151 where he was former Post Commander. He accepted Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior at a young age and served as former President of the Usher Board and Sunday School Teacher at Rising Sun Christian Church.

Azie enjoyed watching the Chicago Bears, playing chess, and spending time with his family and friends. We will always remember his infectious laugh and his gift for storytelling.

Azie leaves to cherish his memory: his wife, Ada Gatlen of Peoria; one son, Clarence (Monica) Gatlen of Allentown, PA; five daughters, Charisse "Sherry"

Cowan of Forest Park, IL, Jamie Felton of Carlisle, PA, Janine Gaten and Paulette (Marcus) Fair both of Peoria and Audrey (Claude) Suttle of Coconut Creek, FL; one brother, Leroy Gaten of Jacksonville, FL; special cousins with whom he grew up, Ora "Dimple" Branum, Ted Younger, Sam Marks, Michael Marks, Lawrence Marks, John Henry Lewis, John "Johnny" Pullen, and Henry "Bubba" Walker, Jr.; 14 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives, and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, November 16, 2019 at Rising Sun Christian Church with a visitation beginning at 9 a.m. Pastor John Gibson will officiate. Azie will be laid to rest at Swan Lake Memory Gardens, where U.S. Military Honors will be rendered.

Simons Mortuary is entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be made at [SimonsMortuary.com](http://SimonsMortuary.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Swan Lake Memory Gardens

4601 W War Memorial Dr.  
Peoria, IL 61615

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV 16. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Rising Sun Christian Church  
4310 W. Charter Oak Rd.  
Peoria, IL 61615  
<http://www.risingsunchristianchurch.org/>

## Funeral Service

NOV 16. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

Rising Sun Christian Church  
4310 W. Charter Oak Rd.  
Peoria, IL 61615  
<http://www.risingsunchristianchurch.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten*



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**Simons Mortuary** - November 15, 2019 at 03:05 PM

JB

*SALUTE . ❤️*

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**Joanie Brown** - January 08, 2020 at 12:30 PM



“ *Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten*

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January 29, 2023 at 06:10 AM



“ *Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten*

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January 29, 2023 at 03:12 AM



“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten*



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**Annette Lucy** - December 02, 2019 at 06:42 PM

DV

“ Azie and I were hospital roommates about 18 years ago. We were together just a short time. We shared family time and pastor visits and prayers. We looked after each other. I thought often of him after I left the hospital. Wondered how he was doing. Fond memories of our time together. Guess we both made out OK. May God bless and comfort you in your loss. Dale Van Schaick

Dale K. VanSchaick - November 16, 2019 at 08:32 AM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten.



November 14, 2019 at 01:10 PM

DH

“ Dave and Alice Harkness purchased the Rose Remembrance for the family of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten.



Dave and Alice Harkness - November 14, 2019 at 10:25 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten.



November 14, 2019 at 01:44 AM

WT

“ With heartfelt condolences, Procurement Team purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten.



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**With heartfelt condolences, Procurement Team** - November 13, 2019 at 10:36 AM

AL

“ Annette Lucy sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten



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**Annette Lucy** - November 13, 2019 at 09:10 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten.



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November 13, 2019 at 08:22 AM

JB

“ SALUTE To My Longtime Army Reserve First Sgt. Azie Gaten. My Thoughts And Prayers Are With The Family At This Time. He Will Be Missed By The Ushers Of Rising Sun Christian Church And The United Usher Board Of Peoria Illinois. May He Take His Well Deserved Rest In The Place Where There's No More Pain Nor Sorrow But Only Joy For Tomorrow. In The Arms Of Our Dear Lord Jesus That Promises Peace Love And Understanding . ❤️🕊️🙏🙏  
🙏❤️❤️

Joanie Brown - November 13, 2019 at 12:04 AM

JB

“ Joanie Brown sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten



Joanie Brown - November 12, 2019 at 11:47 PM

LS

“ Loretta Simpson lit a candle in memory of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten



Loretta Simpson - November 12, 2019 at 11:17 PM

KC

“ *Kathy Collins sent a virtual gift in memory of Mr. Azie "Ace" Gaten*



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**Kathy collins** - November 12, 2019 at 01:36 PM

TJ

“ *Sending My condolences and prayers to the family 🙏🙏💔💔 Ace will be missed!!*

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**Teania Johnson** - November 11, 2019 at 10:33 PM