



Michael Thomas Gunning

December 10, 1948 - April 22, 2026

IN MEMORY OF:

Michael Thomas Gunning

Serving Location:

CRAIN FUNERAL HOME – CAPE GIRARDEAU

829 North West End Boulevard, Cape Girardeau, Missouri

Michael Thomas Gunning, 77, at Cape Girardeau passed away Wednesday, April 22, 2026.

Michael was born Dec. 10, 1948 to Michael W. and Gladys Gunning of Tamms, IL.

He graduated from Egyptian High School and later Murray State University. Michael enjoyed teaching high school history classes for 33 years at Egyptian where he met his wife Nancy Payne Gunning. They got married in 1980 and had 45 wonderful years together. They enjoyed going antiquing in Penn. and Ohio, going to flea markets and yard sales. Michael also loved watching the Cardinals play, and crappie fishing at Kentucky Lake.

Michael is survived by sons, Grant Gunning and Garrett Gunning; sister,

Joyce (Doug) Munk of Texarkana, Texas; sister-in law, Verdeana Lavrrar of St. Louis; and brother-in-law, Hank Freund of St. Louis.

Michael's generosity and quick wit will be missed.

Michael chose to have no funeral because he didn't like going to them and he didn't want his friends and family to have to go to his.

The cremation of Michael Thomas Gunning will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

Crain Funeral Home and Cremation Service in Cape Girardeau is in charge of arrangements.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Mr Gunning ,*

*You were the absolute Best History/ Government Teacher!
You always took time to teach your students as much as you could
about History and Government.*

*You were always so enthusiastic and knowledgeable and I was
always amazed at your history stories.*

You were such a kind Teacher, and friend.

*I truly appreciated the kindness you showed me as a history student
growing up in Southern Illinois attending Egyptian.*

I will always remember you as my favorite Teacher Mr Gunning.

Thank You for all you taught me growing up.

*Prayers for your family as they navigate this difficult time without
you.*

You will be missed Mr Gunning, thank you for all the lessons.

Your Friend, and former student, and a 1995 Graduate,- Misty

Misty Middleton - May 05 at 10:04 AM

PB

“ *Nancy, I am so very sorry for your loss. My prayers have been with
you through this difficult time and will remain with you and your
family as you continue.*

Peggy Bentlage - April 30 at 10:54 AM

RF

“ *Mr. Gunning was my favorite teacher at Egyptian. He was the
reason I went into history and archives as a profession. My
condolences to his family.*

Renae Farris - April 30 at 09:31 AM

TP

“ *I was one of his students at Egyptian. I always liked him and his class. We usually talked about fishing in between lessons. I wish his family and friends Godspeed in their healing from his loss. RIP Mr. Gunning!!*



Tony Poole - April 26 at 12:05 AM

MD

“ *Mr. Gunning was the person who sparked my love for american history!! My deepest condolences for his family.*

Melissa Dunn - April 25 at 12:59 PM