

Police Officer Ralph E. “Goose” Gosser P-546 (1946-2022)

Ralph was born October 17, 1946 in Russell Springs, Kentucky to farmers Carthel E. and Burdean (Wilson) Gosser. The family moved to Ohio and Ralph graduated from Norwood High School in 1964.

Starting in high school, he worked at United Dairy Farmer on Montgomery Road until May 1965.

Ralph joined the United States Navy on June 14, 1965 during the Vietnam War. He served as a medic aboard a guided missile cruiser, the U.S.S. Yarnell (DLG-17), during six cruises in the Mediterranean Sea, Caribbean Sea, and North Atlantic Ocean. Hospitalman Gosser was honorably discharged on June 13, 1967.



Upon returning home, Ralph took a position as a Laboratory Technician at General Hospital until November 1967.



Ralph joined the Cincinnati Police Division as a Police Recruit on November 19, 1967. On February 25, 1968, he was promoted to Patrolman, issued Badge 546, and assigned to District 5 (1012 Ludlow Avenue). He was transferred to Communications Section (310 Lincoln Park Drive) on January 3, 1971. Two months later, he returned to District 5. He spent most of his career in Camp Washington. Officer Gosser resigned September 8, 1978 with almost fourteen years of service to his country and community, and eight letters of appreciation and/or commendation, including two from the police chief.

He took over operation of a hardware store in Camp Washington. Later, he operated Gosser’s Horsedrawn Wagon Rides near Harrison, Ohio. He also worked in security at Fernald until 2006. Officer Gosser was an active member of the Harrison Avenue Baptist Church.

After many battles with cancer, Officer Gosser died on December 2, 2022 at the age of 76.

He was predeceased by his wife of 39 years, Gloria Jean (Smith) Gosser (2005), and daughter-in-law, Rhonda Gosser. Officer Gosser is survived by his children, Scott and Leann; grandchildren, Zach Harper, Paige Harper, and Meagan Gosser; great-grandchild, Blaize; brother, Kennie (Wanda) Gosser; siblings-in-law, Rita Parks, Tim Smith, and Greg Smith; and friend, Michelle Snyder.

Visitation will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 10, 2022 at the Harrison Avenue Baptist Church. A funeral service will be held at 1 p.m. Burial with Military Honors to follow at Glenhaven Cemetery.

Memorials may be made to the Church or any veterans organization.