



## Gary E. "Duke" Coke

June 21, 1961 - June 6, 2026

Ayer – Gary E. “Duke” Coke, 65, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, June 6, surrounded by his loving family and close friends.

Duke was born in Groton on February 21, 1961 a son of the late Richard and Ruth (McQueeney) Coke. He was a 1979 graduate of Ayer High School and spent his career working for Ardent Mills as an Operations Specialist.

He was a familiar face at the Ayer Gun and Sportsmen's Club, where he enjoyed spending time with his friends. Above all, he treasured his family. Some of his happiest moments were spent on the annual family vacation to York, Maine - a trip he looked forward to every year.

He is survived by his wife of 33 years, Lonna (Saball) Coke of Ayer; children, Shayne Coke and wife Anne, and their daughter Ember of Gardner, Mary Coke of Ayer; siblings, Richard Coke of Ayer, David Coke and wife Sheri of Florida, and Linda Coke of South Carolina; sister in law, Jackie McAfee Coke of South Carolina; brother in law, Joseph Saball Jr. of Shirley; father and mother-in-law Joseph and Linda Saball of Shirley; several nieces, nephews, extended family and many close friends. Although not related by blood, he is also survived by his brothers, Brent Routhier of Ayer, Dave “Sarge” Sargent of Shirley, Chris Egan of Ayer, Larry Shorey of Shirley, Kevin Shorey of Shirey, and Craig Shorey of Fitchburg.

He was predeceased by his brother Brian Coke in 2015.

Duke's funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday, June 15 in Saint Anthony Church, 14 Phoenix St., Shirely at 10:00am. Burial will be held privately at a later date. Calling hours will be held in the Anderson Funeral Home, 25 Fitchburg Rd., Ayer on Sunday, June 14, from 2:00-5:00pm.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial contribution to the Ayer Gun & Sportsmen's Club, 255 Snake Hill Road Ayer, MA 01432.

# Upcoming Events

## Calling Hours

JUN **14**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Ayer  
25 Fitchburg Road ~ Route 2A  
Ayer, MA 01432  
(978) 772-2355

## Funeral Mass

JUN **15**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Anthony's Church  
14 Phoenix Street  
Shirley, MA 01464