



## Gerald F. Ashby

May 9, 1922 - May 10, 2005

Gerald F. "Jerry" Ashby, 83 of Auburn died Tuesday. Born in Camillus he graduated from Warners High School and served in the Army during WWII where he was part 79th T.D. Battalion serving in the European Theater, England, France and Germany. He received Purple Heart and Battle Stars for Invasion of Normandy and St. Lo. He worked for NYSEG for 27 years before retiring in 1987. He owned and operated a Dairy farm in Ira for 5 years. Jerry was well known as a breeder and exhibitor of Morgan Horses. His Ashwood Morgans' were well known throughout the US and Canada.

For forty years his love of horses was second only to his love of his family. He was predeceased by his daughter Cynthia Muth in 2004.

Survived by his wife of 55 years Anne (Underwood); six sons Gerald and Olga Ashby of Camillus; Mark Ashby of Weedsport; Kevin and Christine of Auburn; Ronnie Ashby of Auburn; William and Amber Ashby of Sennett and Brian Ashby of Auburn; five daughters Judy and Rick Berg of Camillus; Donna and Alan Babbitt of Auburn; Becky and Jean Dwyer of Scipio Center; Karen Finn of Weedsport and Debbie and Claude Tosato of Onondaga Hill; 31 grandchildren; two brothers Robert (Joan) Ashby and Elliott (Martha) Ashby; a sister Laura Hayes; 15 great-grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Services are 1 pm Friday at B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee

St., Camillus. Calling hours are 4 to 8 pm today at the funeral home. Burial with Military honors in Greenlawn Cemetery.

Contributions in lieu of flowers to Throop Fire Department, Beech Tree Road, Auburn, NY 13021.

Please sign the guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)

Don't think of him as gone away His journey's just begun; Life holds so many facets – This earth is only one. Just think of him as resting From the sorrow and the tears In a place of warmth and comfort Where there are no days and years. Think how he must be wishing That we could know today How nothing but our sadness Can really pass away. And think of him as living In the hearts of those he touched For nothing loved is ever lost And he was loved so much.

# Tribute Wall

FC

“ We have often thought of Jerry and his family when traveling to the Auburn area. We are still very much involved with horses, all though not Morgans, the Standardbreds now has our attention. Ev Rodee and I enjoyed our meeting with Jerry at the Morgan shows and our trip to the farm. Bob and I extend our deepest sympathy to Jerry's family.

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**Fran & Bob Coomber** - May 15, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ Sorry to here about Gerry, I worked with him and he was a great guy. I had'nt seen him in many years, but I always wondered how he was doing. I hope he didn't suffer.

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**Dick Tarby** - May 13, 2005 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ Kevin: We knew your father had passed away after seeing his photograph in the paper. You look just like him. The ranks of those WWII gentelmen get smaller each day. To live through that war, have many children and care for those giant horses is quite an achivment in one life time. Please extend our sympathy to your Mother. I never forget the days we worked together in the big yard, winter and summer. Those of us who work together with you are thinking of your family today. God bless. Billy

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**Bill Estabrook** - May 13, 2005 at 12:00 AM

WB

“ Ronnie, Kevin, and Billy Sorry for your loss. My heart goes out to you. May God bless your whole family,

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**william bush** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ gerry will be missed by all of us on ccu,he has been apart of our family on ccu for many years. your family is in our thoughts and prayers. ccu staff !

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maureen,karen,donnelle ccu - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ To all of Jerry’s family and friends: I am so sorry to hear of Jerry’s passing. I read the Post Standard online today because I was writing a note of condolence for another person who had passed away. It was a shock to see Jerry’s name in the obituaries. It was Jerry that first helped me so much with Ashby/Hart family history research nearly eight years ago. When I was a little girl, my parents, Marguerite (Hanifan) and H. H. “Red” Wilson, moved to California from Onondaga County. Although we made several trips “back home” as I was growing up, I did not know nearly as much about our family in the East as I should have. Not until my children were married and having children of their own did they start asking me about our family’s history. The realization that I could not tell them much beyond the names of my grandparents caused me to start asking questions myself. Thank heaven my mother is still alive and has nearly perfect recall of people, places and family happenings over the past 95 years. Somehow Jerry’s name was accidentally left off the list of my Grandaunt Bertha (Hart) Ashby’s children that I included with a letter of inquiry, so naturally, it was he who responded to questions about the Ashby family with a huge envelope full of information and a humorous poem about forgetfulness and his existence which I am including below. This initial contact resulted in visits to the East where I was hospitably invited to visit with Jerry, Anne, Kevin, Tina, Kevin, Jr. and Tania. Martha generously offered to let me stay at her home while I did research at the Onondaga County Public Library. Many Ashby cousins graciously have responded to my letters of inquiry over the years. My mother and I were invited to a reunion of Jerry’s brother Robert’s family held here in the Sierra Nevada foothills of California which we enjoyed very much. My mother and I send our sincere condolences to all of Jerry’s family and friends. He will be remembered and he will be missed. Here’s the poem that Jerry sent me all those years ago: Just a note to say I’m living that I’m not among the dead. Though I’m getting more forgetful and mixed up in the head. I got used to my arthritis, to my dentures I’m resigned, I can manage my bifocals but gosh I miss my mind! For sometimes I can’t remember, when I stand at the foot of the stairs, If I must go up

*for something or have I just come down from there? And before the fridge so often, my poor mind is filled with doubt, Have I just put food away or have I come to take some out? So if it's my turn to write you there's no need for getting sore; I may think that I have written and don't want to be a bore. Just remember that I love you and wish that you were near, Now it's nearly mail time so I must say goodbye, my dear. Here I stand beside the mailbox with a face so very red! Instead of mailing you my letter, I have opened it instead! -  
-- Author Unknown*

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**Diane Wilson Flynn** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ *Donna and family, I was so sorry to hear about your Dad. I just wanted to let you know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.*  
*Leila Dennis*

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**Leila Dennis** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

KC

“ *Donna & Al, Bob & Joan & family I'm so sorry for the loss of your father and brother, but remember that wonderful memories will live in your hearts and minds forever.* *Kathy Carder*

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**Kathy Carder** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ *Kevin, Tina & family, We just want to say how sorry we are for the loss of your father. Our thoughts are with you even though we can't be there.* *Don & Lisa*

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**Don & Lisa DeBois** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM

TF

“ *terry&iare very sorry to here about jerry,he was agood friend for many years,may god be with him .*

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**terry&stew filkins** - May 12, 2005 at 12:00 AM