



## Gilbert "Gib" Verkamp

May 4, 1939 - November 26, 2023

Dateline Jasper, Indiana

Gilbert "Gib" Verkamp, age 84, of Jasper, Indiana, passed away at 2:35 am on November 26, 2023, at his Santa Claus home surrounded by family.

Gib was born in Huntingburg, Indiana, on May 4, 1939, to John and Wilhelmina (Schipp) Verkamp. He married Catherine "Kate" Hoffman on May 11, 1968, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Jasper. They were married for forty-four years before she preceded him in death on December 28, 2012. Following the death of his wife Catherine, Gib reconnected with a childhood neighbor, Rita Uebelhor, and they were married on February 28, 2015, at St. Meinrad Archabbey.

Gib was a 1957 graduate of Huntingburg High School and a 1961 graduate of Indiana State University. He retired as Chairman & CEO of MasterBrand Cabinets in 2000 after a thirty-two year career with the company. Gib was a recipient of the Boy Scout Distinguished Citizen Award and an inductee into the Junior Achievement Dubois County Business Hall of Fame. He served as president of the Indiana State University Alumni Association and the Kitchen Cabinet Manufacturers Association, as Board Chair of Freedom Bank and Indiana Furniture, and as a founding Board member of the Dubois County Community Foundation.

Surviving are his wife Rita Verkamp of Santa Claus; children Max (Jen) Verkamp of Jasper and Ann (John) Kvach of Huntsville, AL; grandchildren Lauren, Ryan, and Erin Verkamp and Ben and Tom Kvach; two sisters Virlee “Perk” Kreilein of Jasper and Sr. Mary Ann Verkamp, OSB of Ferdinand; one brother Bernard Verkamp of Vincennes; extended family Beth (Jarid) Hirt of Santa Claus, Don Alan (Roxanne) Snyder of Santa Claus, and Sara (Rich) Fischer of Evansville, their children and grandchildren. Preceding him in death are his parents, his first wife Catherine, his sister Sr. Mary Aquin Verkamp, OSB, and his brothers Robert Verkamp and Francis “Frank” Verkamp.

Funeral services for Gilbert “Gib” Verkamp will be held at 10:00 a.m. EST on Thursday, November 30, 2023 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Jasper, with burial to follow in Fairview Cemetery. Friends may call from 2:00 - 8:00 p.m. EST on Wednesday, November 29, 2023 at the Becher-Kluesner Downtown Chapel in Jasper or at 9:00 a.m. EST on Thursday morning prior to the Mass at St. Joseph's. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of St. Benedict, St. Meinrad Archabbey, or to a favorite charity. The family would like to express their appreciation for the kind and compassionate support of Heart-to-Heart Hospice.

Online condolences may be made to [www.becherkluesner.com](http://www.becherkluesner.com).

# Cemetery Details

## Fairview Cemetery

1020 Kundek Street  
Jasper, IN 47546

# Previous Events

## Visitation

NOV **29**. 2:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Becher & Kluesner Funeral Home - Downtown  
214 East 7th Street  
Jasper, IN 47546  
(812) 482-4141  
email@becherkluesner.com

## Visitation

NOV **30**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

St Joseph Catholic Church  
1029 Kundek Street  
Jasper, IN 47546

## Mass of Christian Burial

NOV **30**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St Joseph Catholic Church  
1029 Kundek Street  
Jasper, IN 47546



# Tribute Wall

JE

“ One of my favorites from the Kitchen and Bath industry. Gib was a very honorable human being that I was happy to work with for over a decade. I am so very saddened to hear of his passing.

James Eathorne - December 04, 2023 at 02:54 PM



“ I remember Gib, he was always a very nice and generous man . His first wife Kate and my mother were best friends since their high school days. Max and Ann , I remember babysitting you both when we all were much younger ! :) .Rita I knew from working here at the Abbey and she too is a very sweet person. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you all during this difficult time ! -- Marja Sonderman Schatz



Marja Sonderman-Schatz - November 29, 2023 at 03:45 PM

DH

“ We’ve lost a great friend and good man. The last time I talked with Gib Verkamp, we were recalling his campaign for State Representative many years ago. His candidacy reflected his desire to serve his community and improve life for Hoosiers. He enjoyed the experience but was, like many Republicans then, unsuccessful. He made a decision to focus on a business career and leave politics to others. I told him that had he been successful he would have been a legislative leader and maybe Governor. Gib’s success as a businessman, community leader and family man demonstrated his character, integrity and work ethic. His generous support of many charities and non-profits showed a caring spirit. Mary Ann and I extend our sympathies to Rita, Max, Ann and the Verkamp family. We have both benefited from Gib’s generosity and have many happy memories associated with the family.  
Don Hayes

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**Don Hayes** - November 29, 2023 at 12:43 PM

CR

“ I never had the chance to meet Gib, but I know his daughter Ann very well. It’s clear in reading all of these messages that Gib was a remarkable person- and it’s clear it’s a legacy in the family as Ann carries the same values. She has a profound and positive influence on all the people around her and through her work. I can only imagine what that meant to Gib - and it’s one of many signs of a life well-lived.

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**Chris Russell** - November 29, 2023 at 12:05 AM

SH

“ *Mr. Verkamp built a company that remains a blessing to thousands of people. Honoring his memory, and the contributions he made to MasterBrand and Indiana communities. Thank you. Sincere sympathy to his family and friends.*



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**Sheila** - November 28, 2023 at 12:48 PM

KH

“ *Our sincere condolence to Max and Ann and their families! We met Gib as our new "American Uncle" in the year 1986/87, when we found out, that Kate's Daeschle ancestors in Jasper and Roswitha's Daeschle ancestors in Pfaffenweiler were relatives. The first time in the US, in 1987, it was Gib, who learnt us Germans to know "the big world of America": taking us with his company plane, showing us the hierarchy in his company (highest floor and thick carpet), taking us so often on his boat, inviting us to excellent restaurants etc. We thank him so much for the great time whenever we met in Jasper or in Pfaffenweiler. Gib was such a kind and welcoming person, we will never forget. We will pray for him and light more candles in the Pfaffenweiler church for him and we will think on Gib together with his granddaughter Lauren, who just arrived in Pfaffenweiler some minutes ago. God bless him and let him rest in peace The Woerner and Horst and Battisti families from Pfaffenweiler*

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**Karin Horst** - November 28, 2023 at 11:05 AM

GL

“ Thoughts and prayers to Max and Ann along with the Verkamp family. There are so many memories over the years in working with Gib. He was a wonderful person that shared his appreciation with everyone around him. He served his community above and beyond with his generosity and leadership. God Bless.

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**Gary Lautzenhiser** - November 28, 2023 at 10:42 AM

JE

Kind words Gary and I most sincerely hope you are enjoying your retirement. I am truly saddened to hear of Gib's passing

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**James Eathorne** - December 04, 2023 at 02:57 PM

ED

“ Sincere condolences to Max, Ann and the whole Verkamp family. Gib was so generous, kind and humble. The Verkamp and Aristokraft family overwhelmingly welcomed me into Jasper as a recent college graduate. The first lesson learned was to be on time. If you are early you are on time. If you are on time you are late and if you are late you are fired. I tell my kids that constantly. I loved to see Gib and the Verkamp family at ND games and catch up. My Mom met Gib at an ND tailgater. Mom mentioned her son needed a sales job and he generously offered to interview me. That was divine intervention and I thank God everyday for that generous opportunity. Gib, you will be missed dearly and you are early to Heaven. We will be praying for your soul and peace in Heaven. Much love and respect for the Verkamp family. God Bless you all!

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**Ed Dahm** - November 28, 2023 at 10:16 AM

LR

“ I was employed by Masterbrand in April of 1987. I will never forget my first day. The last stop on my orientation of the corporate office was a trip to the third floor. There I was graciously greeted and welcomed by Gib Verkamp. He was so very kind to me a young new hire in their Customer Service Department from which I would retire some 27 years later. My prayers go out to all the family and those who have many wonderful memories of Gib. God Bless, Lisa Reutepohler

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**Lisa Reutepohler** - November 28, 2023 at 08:11 AM

BH

“ Gib presented me with my 10 year service award and thanked me for being apart of the team. He paused and then added “not only that, you are a good person.” Kind words that have stuck with me over the last nearly three decades. Gib, not only that, you are a good person.

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**Betty Hitchcock** - November 28, 2023 at 07:10 AM

JE

*Sad news right Betty? Hope you are doing well and enjoying retirement.*

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**James Eathorne** - December 04, 2023 at 02:58 PM

SM

“ Rita, Max and Ann,  
So sorry to hear about Gib's passing!  
He was a great friend to Mike and myself!  
❤️ Hugs and prayers 🙏  
Susan and Mike McCubbin

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**Susan Mccubbin** - November 27, 2023 at 11:01 PM

JL

“ My condolences to Max and Ann and the Verkamp family. Gib was such an inspiration and mentor to my husband and celebrating birthdays over the years with Gib was such a delight as we shared the same birthday. He was such a kind remarkable man and will be greatly missed.

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**Judy Lautzenhiser** - November 27, 2023 at 07:41 PM

DS

“ Words can not express my emotions hearing of Gib’s passing. My sincere condolences to Max and Ann and the whole family. Gib was a mentor to me well beyond what he even knew. When I was faced with a tough CEO-level problem, I would many times think “what would Gib do”? Gib was generous beyond what most people knew. When I was moving into Jasper to take on a new position at Aristokraft, Gib actually co-signed for the loan on my Jasper house! My last big memory was when I was a new VP for AOK and I was passionate for a particular program I had come up with. I pushed things a little too hard in a management meeting and Gib had to shut me down. After the meeting, it was just the two of us in the conference room and Gib put his hand on my shoulder and told me that I shouldn’t give up on the idea. He said it was a great idea . . . It just wasn’t the right time yet. Gib gave me the confidence to fight for the things that matter. I will miss his guidance and his calm nature. Rest in Peace Gib.

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**Dan Stout** - November 27, 2023 at 05:48 PM

JE

Kind words Dan, Gib was truly an icon!

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**James Eathorne** - December 04, 2023 at 02:59 PM

CM

“ *Sending our sympathies from Arizona. John and Carolyn Marringly*

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**carolyn Mattingly** - November 27, 2023 at 02:37 PM