

Special Offer
for Returning Listeners

[Click for Details >>](#)

SiriusXM
ROAD HAPPY

[Get it Now](#)

Obituaries



POWERED BY

Legacy.com

[OBITUARIES](#) | [FUNERAL HOMES](#) | [SEND FLOWERS](#) | [NEWS & ADVICE](#) | [MEMORIALS](#)

RESOURCES

- [More Obituaries for James Sally](#)
- [Looking for an obituary for a different person with this name?](#)
- 🔍 [Find a Different J. Sally](#)
[See More >](#)

JAMES EUGENE "GENE" SALLY

▼ [Obituary](#) > [Condolences](#) > [Flowers](#)



On Friday March 16th, James Eugene "Gene" Sally left this earth a better place than he found it. He was a self-made man, born and raised in Rolla, Missouri to Dotts and Ruby Lanning Sally. He was very proud of his Midwest roots and values. Gene loved accomplishments, sports and business acumen. Really anyone's. He loved to keep us all apprised of successes in our midst and amazing stories of personal triumph. He paid his debts on time ("fast pay makes fast friends"), kept his word and liked to pick up the check. Gene was a great friend to many people, donating land, time and money to causes he supported. He served his country in the [Korean War](#), as a member of the National Guard unit, Rolla's 1438th Treadway bridge engineers company. He was a wonderful athlete himself; he was the last player signed by the St. Louis Browns before they became the Baltimore Orioles. He lettered in both baseball and basketball at Mizzou. In 1955, he moved back to Rolla and opened Sally Real Estate and Insurance. He organized and was President of Rolla's first Real Estate Board, helping the city council to develop zoning and planning ordinances. At age 26, he was elected state representative and four years later served in the Missouri Senate, the youngest person ever elected at that time. He was the Director of the Missouri Department of Community Affairs and Reciprocity Commission. He was a leader for mental health reform and [civil rights](#) (which finally passed in 1964.) Gene served as Host State Chairman of the 1970 National Governors' Conference and a 1972 delegate to the Democratic National Convention. He was crucial in getting the 1993 boating safety bill passed under Governor Carnahan. His loved every single thing about the game of golf. He had 9 holes in one, and won 35 amateur championships. Gene was his very best self when teaching someone a new shot or improving a swing, especially kids. Perhaps more than anything, he loved his family. He and his wife, Betty, have been a team for thirty years and have lived in southern California for most of that time. He is also survived by two children from his first marriage, Tory Sally Fitzgibbon (Will Fitzgibbon) and

SYMPATHY FLOWER



Comfort those who
lost a loved one with
an arrangement
delivered by a local florist

Order By Phone
(855) 329-5806 C

[SEND FLOWERS](#)

► [View More](#)



HYUNDAI ELANTRA
Up To

\$2,500 Total Savings

[offer details](#)

[find yours](#)

Special Offer
for Returning Listeners

[Click for Details >>](#)

[Get it Now](#)

SiriusXM
ROAD HAPPY

Christopher Sally; and five grandchildren, Liam Fitzgibbon, Henry Fitzgibbon, Harrison Fitzgibbon, Gibson Sally and Katharine Sally. His brother, Don Sally, lives in Chicago and Scottsdale.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Missouri Junior Golf Association, 1616 Oil Well Rd, Jefferson City, MO, 65101 (573)-636- 8994. A dinner will be held in his honor on April 13 for friends and family. Online condolences can be made to rollamo11@gmail.com.


Published in The Rolla Daily News from Mar. 28 to Mar. 29, 2018

Published in The Rolla Daily News on Mar. 24, 2018

[Read Less](#)

 [LISTEN TO OBITUARY](#)

REMEMBER

Share memories or express condolences below.  [SEND FLOWERS](#)

[VIEW ALL](#)

Add a memory or
condolence to the guest
book

[ADD MESSAGE](#)

*What will you miss most about
James Eugene "Gene" Sally?*

[View Guest Book](#)



[ADD PHOTOS](#)



[ADD VIDEOS](#)

Grief Advice and Support

Helpful Tips for Coping with Grief and Loss

RESOURCES

- [Send Funeral Flowers](#)
- [Donate to Charity](#)

FIND ADVICE & SUPPORT

- [Funeral Etiquette](#)
- [Grief Support Groups](#)

[< BACK TO TODAY'S OBITUARIES](#)

