

## BIOGRAPHY: GERALD LUBSHINA

Gerald was born in Ottawa, Illinois on February 24, 1941 to Joseph and Eveline Tansley. He attended Lincoln and St. Patrick's grade schools. Gerald graduated from Marquette High School in 1959. After one year at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, he transferred to Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. He received a BA degree in History in 1963.

Gerald was employed by East Aurora School District 131 in August, 1963 to teach American History, World Cultures, and the Latin language at East Aurora High School. During the summers of 1964 through 1969, he earned his MA in History from NIU in January of 1969. Gerald taught at East Aurora from 1963 through 2001. While at East, he was sponsor of the Junior Class for 16 years; President of Aurora Education Association East and signed the first collective bargaining agreement with the Board of Education. Gerald was chosen in 1979 to lead the Social Studies Department as Chairman. Three courses were taken from NIU to meet State standards for supervision. After that he evaluated the teachers in his Department as well as Bilingual Social Studies and Alternative school teachers. Other subjects that he taught through the years are American Government, Comparative Revolutions, and World History. In 1990, he was chosen TEACHER OF THE YEAR by his colleagues at East Aurora High School.

Gerald married Merrilee Meling of Ottawa, Illinois on July 11, 1970. They have four children: Stephanie (1971), Melanie (1972), David (1976), and Marie (1980). They have two grandchildren: Carys (2005) and Joshua (2007).

After retiring in 2001, Gerald joined AARTA, The Aurora Retired Teachers Association of which he was President in 2006-2007. He has been Legislative Chairman to the present. Gerald also joined the West Suburban Chapter of Retired Teachers – IEA-NEA.

Gerald became a member of St. Rita of Cascia Parish in 1972, From the mid 1970's to the mid 1990's, he taught Religious Education classes mostly to third graders. He serves on the Pastoral Council, as a Eucharistic Minister, as Director of Altar Servers. And facilitator of a Bible study group.

Gerald has served the City of Aurora since 1981 on the CDBG.