



Gayla J Stein

May 25, 1946 - May 24, 2026

Gayla Stein of Manteno, Park Forest and Lemont, Illinois passed away on May 24th, 2026 at the age of 79. She was preceded in death by her father, Harry Smith, her sister Karen Harrington, and her niece Ashley Hammerstad-Smith. Gayla is survived by her mother Ruth Smith-Khedroo, her husband Richard Stein, her daughter Kara Norvilas, her son in law Kovas Norvilas, her brother Ron Smith and his wife Linda Smith, her nephews and great nieces. Gayla graduated from Lemont High School in 1964. She went to Joliet Junior College and then graduated from Northern Illinois University in 1968. She became an elementary school teacher and spent most of her career in Park Forest-Chicago Heights school district 163. Gayla loved dogs and going to the Northwoods of Wisconsin. She was sweet, loving and courageous. Gayla will be missed by her family and friends. There will be a private graveside service.

Tribute Wall

EF

“Eva and family purchased the Garden Accent - "The hose we love don't go away..." for the family of Gayla J Stein.



Eva and family - June 07 at 12:15 PM

LS

“I've known Gayla since 1986, when I began dating her brother, Ron. Gayla was never anything other than kind and welcoming to me. I always admired her caring for others, and later in life her bravery in the face of medical issues. Her calm manner in dealing with the ups and downs of everyday life will always be remembered. I'll miss her. Linda

Linda Smith - May 30 at 09:12 AM



“Gayla was a wonderful and loving sister. Naturally, I have a lot of memories of growing up with her. In later years, we usually talked on the phone 2 to 3 times a week. I will miss that a lot. Ron

Ron Smith - May 29 at 01:36 PM