



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.