



Gae Pearl

June 1, 1932 - May 23, 2020

It is with great sadness that we tell you of the passing of our mother, Gae, on 5/23/20, at the age of 87. She grew up in Minneapolis and graduated from Washburn High and UW Madison. Her love of fashion and the arts led her to a career designing women's coats. She died peacefully in her sleep after contracting Covid-19. We weren't allowed inside her room so we had to sit outside her window and watch from afar as she slipped into a coma, only being able to talk to her through her window to let her know we were there, and that she was loved. We could not hold her hand or give her a kiss on her forehead and whisper that it was ok. We thank God that her nurse, Angela, sat by her side, talked to her, stroked her hair, and made sure she was not in pain. The evening before her death, the staff helped us set up a camera in her room. Throughout the evening we were able to watch her die. We hope she was able to hear our voices, through the speaker, as her breathing shortened. She passed early in the morning without loved ones by her side. We were not able to view her body or give her one last kiss on her forehead or let her know of the hole in our hearts. We will not be able to have a funeral or sit Shiva where we can get together and hug each other and look into the eyes of people she loved. This is what it looks like for our family. This is what we will carry with us the rest of our lives. We are not alone as we share in this experience with friends and neighbors that are struggling with the same scenarios. Our heart goes out to each and every one of them. Gae was a mother, sister, grandmother, auntie, cousin, and friend. She was a clothing designer, tennis fan, lover of old movies, fashion, the arts, and classical piano. She was a book reader, bridge player, mentor, great listener, and a student of life! She loved to laugh, had a great sense of humor and an infectious smile. Mostly she loved her family, grandchildren, cousins, nieces, nephews, and wonderful friends! She told us that, to quote Woody Allen, "I'm not afraid to die, I just don't want to be there when it happens!" We hope that she is at peace with her family and all her funny friends that have passed before her, and that she sleeps well! She is preceded in death by her parents, Sarah and Arthur Rosenberg. Survived by her brother, Dr. Robert Rosenberg, children, Joni Pearl and Wally Lederer, Julie and Bob Pearl, grandchildren, Chas and Ethan Lederer and Mara and Jack Pearl and beloved cousins. The family wants to thank Wildflower Lodge for their care to Gae. Memorials to a charity of your personal choice. A memorial service will take place later this summer. Love

you mom, you will be missed!

Comments



“ Dear Joni, Bobby and family, I have so many warm memories of your mom having spent many hours with your family and in your home when we were growing up. From Jerry Lewis Telethon sleepovers and hanging out in the so mod, brown and silver basement -- your mom and dad were always welcoming and so cool. They were younger than most of our friend's set parents -- and it was apparent. Gae was so cool -- so contemporary in her eye for design, interior decorating and her personal style -- not to mention her professional work in their business. In more recent years, when seeing Joni and having some visiting time with Gae, seeing her and learning that she was a news junkie -- up on the current affairs and making her opinions known regarding the news of the day. Your mom was interesting and interested -- always asking what we were up to, in keeping with her desire to stay current. My last time seeing your mom, though things were harder for her, she still had her signature smile. Today is her birthday -- always a difficult day, but especially the first one that you observe without her. May the memories of your dear mom, Gae, be a blessing to everyone who loved her. Lots of love to all of you, Freddie

Freddie Weisberg - June 01 at 05:49 PM



“ Dear family of my beautiful friend Gae, today is her birthday and she lives on in my memories of her loving friendship. Please tell me a way I can contact you. I just moved back from CA and will be here for her memorial. She and I had a very special friendship. Diane Berk

diane berk - June 01 at 01:57 PM



“ I'm so sorry fo your loss. One of my best memories of Gae was our couples poker nights. She always had a smile and a giggle. I will always think of her and smile.

Joni Levine - May 30 at 12:01 PM



“ My condolences at the loss of lovely Gae. She will join her cousin and my dear friend, Rona Sher in kindness, love and laughter. Her obit tore at my heartstrings. She indeed was blessed by her families' love and care. Arlis Grossman

Arlis F Grossman - May 27 at 03:33 PM



“ Joyce Moscoe lit a candle in memory of Gae Pearl



Joyce Moscoe - May 26 at 04:54 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to Gae family from your cousins in Los Angeles. Marc Nathanson

Marc Nathanson - May 26 at 04:39 PM



“ Thank you for sharing this heartfelt tribute to your mom. May the memories you have and the love you shared her in her last days keep you blessed. Your mom sounds like a wonderful person.

Jean Marie Johnson - May 26 at 02:03 PM



“ My deepest condolences to Gae's family. Her memorial was truly memorable. I remember her from our collage years, she will be missed by many. Eva Kieffer

eva kieffer - May 26 at 12:58 PM



“ Dee Rubel lit a candle in memory of Gae Pearl



Dee Rubel - May 26 at 12:20 PM



“ Thank you for sharing your obituary of Gae in the Star Tribune. So many family members are leaving us before their time. It's important to let others know about this injustice which we all have to endure together. God bless the family and friends of Gae Pearl.

McCarthy Susan - May 26 at 10:31 AM



“ Hello Joni, Wally, Bob and Julie and all of Gae's family, I send you my heart felt condolences. This story of Gae's passing is heart-wrenching. I'm so sorry. Your description of who she was is so on the mark. Gae brought huge joy in a small package. She really had a special place in the Smith family's hearts. I believe Gae knew that she was being held close by you and that her spirit was feeling loved. She was truly a "love child" and she shared her love with grace, wisdom and incomparable humor. Gae, rest in peace. They're pulling a chair up to the poker table right now. In loving memory of Gae, Maureen (Smith) Sultan

Maureen Sultan - May 25 at 06:39 PM



“ Dear Family, My Auntie Gae will forever be a shining light in my life. I will miss her beautiful smile and everything about her sense of humor. Rest in Peace Darling Auntie Gae. Forever love and forever missed. Your loving niece, Sheryl

Sheryl Frankel - May 25 at 05:32 PM



“ Our deepest condolences to the family. This is such a difficult time at best but particularly with the death of a loved one. I loved working with Gae, her fun personality and beautiful smile always cheered me up. I hope the memories you have of happy times with her will help you at this time Rhoda and Gene Engelson



rhoda engelson - May 25 at 04:52 PM



“ Your words have touched me deeply. I don't know the family, nor did I know the beautiful woman you spoke of. Her picture tells it all. She looks like someone who loved her life. You were lucky to have her for as long as you did. Her memory will live forever in your hearts. I'm so sorry for your loss

judi - May 25 at 02:54 PM



“ Carolyn Abramson lit a candle in memory of Gae Pearl



carolyn abramson - May 25 at 02:31 PM



“ I didn't know beautiful Gae but your obituary moved me deeply and I send my love

Laurie Savran - May 25 at 02:24 PM



“ My sincerest condolences to Family Gae's Entire Family and Extended Family. MAY SHE REST IN PEACE



Peggy Kane - May 25 at 02:20 PM