



Donna Marie Gentile

August 28, 1944 - August 19, 2024

Donna Marie Gentile passed away at 79 on August 19, 2024, in Bloomington, Indiana.

Born on August 28, 1944, in Chicago to Raymond and Ramona Shiffer, Donna graduated from DePaul University in 1967 where she met, and later married Michael Gentile, an enduring partnership of 57 years. Donna went on to teach elementary school in Chicago, IL and Fort Wayne, Indiana before landing in Bloomington in 1971. Donna was a dedicated volunteer and administrator for Challengers Day camp for children for more than a decade and an engaged parent to Matt and Nick at St. Charles Elementary School and active parishioner at St. Charles Catholic Church. Donna eventually turned her passion for antiques and rare finds into a thriving retail business, Different Drummer for more than 12 years. Donna loved the engagement with the Bloomington community as customers in search of that perfect gift. Donna's work in the community further extended to 20 years as a volunteer for hospice, befitting that hospice was able to give back in her time of need. Donna is survived by her husband, Mike Gentile, sons Matt (Kellie) and Nick (Tina), and grandchildren Boden, Grady, and Emmery, and her brother, Michael Shiffer (Mary), nephews Henry and William and sister Barbara Shiffer Blum.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11:00am on Saturday September 7, 2024 at the St. Paul's Catholic Center 1413 E 17th St Bloomington, IN 47408. Visitation will take place from 10:00 am to time of Mass. A burial will follow at

Valhalla Memory Gardens.

The family would like to thank all of the care team from IU Health Hospice; Jenny, Dean, Angi, Angie, Joy and the Hospice House staff for helping Donna in her time of need. Additionally, we would like to thank her long-term caregiver, Sara, and communion minister Anne. In lieu of flowers contributions may be made in Donna's memory to IU Health Bloomington Hospice House, St Paul Catholic Center or charity of your choice.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memory Gardens

310 North Johnson Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47401

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP 7. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center
1413 East 17th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 7. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center
1413 East 17th Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

Tribute Wall

PI

“ I just learned of Donna’s passing. While I didn’t know her well I felt I did through working with Mike at Crane. On a work trip once Donna came with Mike and I will never forget the way they looked at each other during an evening meal; so much love for each other. So much pride in their boys.

Pamela Ingram - November 03, 2024 at 01:52 PM

LW

“ While I did not know Donna, I know her husband Mike through our work at NSWC Crane. I just want to offer my condolences to Mike on the loss of his wife. I know he will always remember the good times he shared with Donna and all she meant to him and his family.

Larry Weaver

Larry Weaver - September 04, 2024 at 11:38 PM

JL

“ Janet F Palumbo All My Love purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Donna Marie Gentile.



Janet F Palumbo All My Love - September 03, 2024 at 05:53 PM

JL

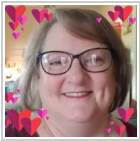
“ Janet F Palumbo All My Love planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Donna Marie Gentile.

Janet F Palumbo All My Love - September 03, 2024 at 05:53 PM

JS

“ Donna was a dedicated provider of unconditional love. I first met her as a hospice volunteer when I joined then Bloomington Hospital Hospice as their Volunteer Coordinator. Donna provided guidance & support to me as a new employee and for my tenure with hospice. I loved shopping at Different Drummer and enjoyed her creativity. Most of all I admired her continued ability to be a woman of grace and humble service to many even as she dealt with her challenging illness. She truly exemplified Christ’s teachings of a “humble servant.” Much love & respect to you, Mike. You exemplify a dedicated, loving spouse & humble servant as well.

Janice Sinn - August 29, 2024 at 11:56 AM



“ Mike and Donna were a fixture in my childhood all the way through to my own children. Her laugh, her sense of humor, her love of ice cream, and her courage in the face of physical challenges will always live in me. May the souls of the faithfully departed rest in peace.

Nancy Archer - August 28, 2024 at 05:14 PM