



Ruth I. Gleason

January 28, 1948 - October 25, 2022

Ruth I. Emch Gleason, 74, of Bloomington passed away Tuesday, October 25, 2022 at her residence. She was born January 28, 1948 in Toledo, Ohio, to Lawrence and Bessie (Short) Emch.

She was a member of St. Charles Catholic Church. There she served in numerous capacities and on numerous committees. Most importantly, she taught at St. Charles School for over 35 years. She managed the media center and library and she taught religion class to the eighth grade. She was also the founder and director of the Summer Institute, a summer enrichment program attended by hundreds of children each summer for almost 30 years.

She enjoyed studying history, gardening, reading, and spending time with her loved ones. Teaching was her passion and she cherished her students. So much did she love her students that many of them became family to her and she to them. She loved animals—especially cats—and volunteered with animals at Petco for the past several years.

She is survived by her daughter, Marie Gleason Staker, her brother, James Emch, her sister-in-law Teresa, and their children Paul and Kathy. She is also survived by countless students whom she adopted and loved as her own.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Visitation will be at 10 a.m., Monday, October 31, 2022 at St. Charles Catholic Church, 2222 E. Third St, Bloomington.

A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11 a.m. at the church with Father Michael Keucher, one of her adopted sons, officiating. Internment will follow at a later time. All are welcome after the funeral Mass to a meal provided by the church in the Parish Hall.

In lieu of flowers, Ruth would prefer donations be made to the Brown County Humane Society or the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington, have been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **31**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St Charles Borromeo Church
2222 E 3rd St
Bloomington, IN 47401-5385
(812) 336-6846

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **31**. 11:00 AM (ET)

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2222 E 3rd St
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Tribute Wall

MC

“ I will always hold Ms. Gleason in my heart and memory. As a child, she made a place for me (and so many others) in the St. Charles library, particularly when I felt I didn't fit in anywhere else. Looking back, some of my happiest memories in middle school were spent bright and early in the library training for quiz bowl meets at Cathedral or hiding in a corner pouring over books with the official excuse that I was "practicing" (rather than having to go to recess). She was the first teacher I remember who made me feel that my strengths outweighed my struggles, who encouraged my strange academic and intellectual interests and passions, and me feel that those things should be encouraged and celebrated, not tempered or subdued. I'd only recently reconnected with her on social media, where she always had something nice to say about my cats and life in DC (a place I visited for the first time 16 years ago as an 8th grader on a trip she co-led). I only wish I'd taken the chance to say how much I appreciated her. Sending my love to her family and friends.

Matt Cesnik - November 03, 2022 at 08:49 PM

ST

A wonderful tribute.

Sue Terrill - November 20, 2022 at 01:02 PM

BP

“ I didn't know until today that Ruth had died. I wish I had been at her funeral. She was a wonderful colleague and friend when we worked together at St. Charles, especially at the Summer Institute.

Beth Perney - November 03, 2022 at 01:32 PM

RH

“ Ruth was a wonderful woman. I feel privileged to have had the chance to know her.

Renée Henderson - November 02, 2022 at 07:26 PM

IS

“ When she worked as a most devoted volunteer with the rescue kitties at Petco, Ruth was known for the cuddle blanket she used to wrap and calm scared felines with. Ruth's compassion and dedication were unparalleled. She was appreciated by all her volunteer colleagues, who also admired her colorful shirt and sweater sets! She always looked like a million

Ingrid Skoog - October 31, 2022 at 08:18 AM

NR

“ It is hard to pick only one memory of Mrs. G when I have so many. I practically lived in the library and participated in every program she offered, from fantasy football & baseball to Future Problem Solving. I am a Cubs fan because of her, have a collection of teddy bears because of her, and won't give up on a book before reading 50 pages because of her advice. Sending love to her family and friends. Rest in Peace Mrs. G.

Nancye Rahn - October 31, 2022 at 12:27 AM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Ruth I. Gleason.



October 27, 2022 at 11:45 PM

NH

“ Ruth was a wonderful and important figure in my formative years while attending St. Charles Summer Institute, and was an invaluable mentor for me as a budding educator when I came back to Summer Institute as an instructor. She was an incredibly caring person who truly valued her position and chance for positive impact on the lives of children.

Nicholas Hobbs - October 27, 2022 at 04:17 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Ruth I. Gleason.



October 26, 2022 at 05:09 PM



“ Marie, I'm very saddened to hear about your mother's passing. My heart goes out to you.

Patty Cole - October 26, 2022 at 04:26 PM

ST

“ Susan Jackson (Summer Institute teacher) purchased the Florist Choice Bouquet for the family of Ruth I. Gleason.



Susan Jackson (Summer Institute teacher) - October 26, 2022 at 01:34 PM



“ Sweet Sincerity was purchased for the family of Ruth I. Gleason.



October 26, 2022 at 12:13 PM