



Virginia "Gingie" Steinmetz Haley

June 14, 1934 - April 30, 2020

Virginia "Gingie" (Steinmetz) Haley, age 85, died April 30th, 2020 in Bloomington, Indiana. She was born June 14, 1934 in South Bend, Indiana, to William J. and Clara (Peters) Steinmetz. She attended St. Joseph's Grade School and spent many a happy summer at Camp Kewano on Lake Michigan where the bottom was sandy, and you could check out a canoe after treading water for 10 minutes. She graduated as part of the John Adams High School class of 1953. After attending University of Arizona and Hollins College, she returned to South Bend and married John "Pat" Haley in 1957 at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame. As an Army wife for 20 years, she lived all over the US and overseas, threw the best army parties, could feed 30 soldiers at the drop of a hat, while also finding time to volunteer at the local Red Cross or Hospital. She returned to South Bend where this avid reader settled into the perfect job at the River Park Public Library. She reconnected with her Adams High School classmates, planning reunions and meeting regularly with the "lunch bunch." Gingie was a member of the Tri-Delta sorority at the University of Arizona and served as the treasurer of the South Bend/Michiana Chapter. After retiring from the St. Joseph County Public Library, she moved to her 19th dwelling in Bloomington, Indiana in 2010.

Gingie loved puzzles and games. During her army years, she was a regular at the base bingo game, winning two cars and scores of other prizes over her career. Always a crafter, whether it be stained glass, french beaded flowers, or knitting Icelandic sweaters, she was constantly trying something new,

especially with her sister Joan and sister-in-law Shirley. Christmas crafts were their specialty. In the 1990s, she took up traditional rug hooking and joined the Happy Hookers of South Bend and the Niles Rug Hooking Club. In Bloomington, she was a founding member of the Upland Hookers with her daughter Jean to whom she passed on her love for the fiber arts. Gingie was known for her love of music from “her era” and loved to sing along, knowing all the words. She learned the ukulele in high school and picked it back up as a member of the Bell Trace Ukelelers, bringing some of the artistic license from the high school gang to the group's repertoire.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her siblings William (Shirley) Steinmetz, Joan (William) Sanders, Jean (Richard) Hahn, and John (Wilma) Stienmetz. She is survived by her

children John Haley, Laura (Dan Taylor) Haley, Vivian (Randy) Glaeser, Jean Haley, and Peter (Linda) Haley, four grandchildren and five great grandchildren with one on the way. She had a wry sense of humor, sweet demeanor, giving heart, and took life as it came. She always had a space for anyone who needed one. She'll be missed by all who loved her.

A Funeral Mass will be held at 11:00am Monday, June 14, 2021 at the St Joseph Catholic Church at 225 N. Hill St South Bend, Indiana. The family will receive friends in the church 30 minutes prior to the Mass.

There will be a private burial following the services. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations made to the 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

Tribute Wall

VD

“ I worked with Gingie at the library 35 years ago and you'd never met a sweeter or more caring person. Rest in peace Gingie, I think of you often and smile.

Veronica (Ronnie) DeMoss - June 11, 2021 at 05:54 PM

AN

“ ! visited the River Park library regularly for years. Gingie shared with me her love of mysteries/detective stories which I still love till this day. We were always searching for the best author and the best mystery. May Gingie rest in peace. My sympathy to all. She was such a lovely special person.

Anne - June 11, 2021 at 10:31 AM

MM

“ Gingie very often came on Fridays to the Catholic Communion Prayer Service to which I ministered at Bell Trace. I always enjoyed her sweet, quiet presence. I know she will be missed by many! Mary Miller

Mary Miller - May 09, 2020 at 11:14 AM

JG

“ I met Gingie in 1991 when she lived on Baywood in Granger I stayed at the house with her son John for a short period. Gingie was a sweet person .My prayers and thoughts are with John,Pete,Vivian, Jean for the loss of their mom she was a one of kind person .

Jill Gutierrez - May 06, 2020 at 11:00 PM

LU

“Gingie was such a lovely, sweet and cheerfully upbeat always at work! I enjoyed the time I spent working with her at River Park as a sub. We shared a love of books and she read most of my Essie Summers and then passed them on to another friend of the library. She will be missed by anyone who knew her. My sincere sympathy to all of her family.

Luanne - May 06, 2020 at 12:38 PM

TT

“Our family got to know Gingie during her time at the River Park Library. Each of my children benefited from her caring manner and kind heart. We were weekly visitors during her entire time at the library and she was an important part of my children's early years. We will carry wonderful memories of her, deepest sympathy to her beloved family.
- The Tidmarshes

The Tidmarshes - May 05, 2020 at 07:53 PM



“Healing Tears - All White was purchased for the family of Virginia "Gingie" Steinmetz Haley.



May 05, 2020 at 03:18 PM

NP

“Gingie was a friend, workmate and neighbor of my Mother Alyce Brewer. They shared many good times. My Mother missed her when she moved away. We send many caring wishes to her family.

Nancy Parker - May 05, 2020 at 03:02 PM

SS

“ My husband, Bob Shields, was a lifetime friend of John's so I met Gingie in the mid 1970s. She was always upbeat and smiling as though she had just heard a good joke she wanted to share. I'm sure she's left a large hole in the hearts of her family and friends and she will be missed.

Susan Shields

Susan Shields - May 05, 2020 at 02:23 PM

DG

“ I worked with Virginia at the River Park Library. What a wonderful person with a wonderful sense of humor. I'll always remember her. Rest in peace.

Donna Gillett Gehring

Donna Gillett Gehring - May 05, 2020 at 10:42 AM

AF

“ Deepest Condolences to Pete and Family on the loss of your Mom. May God Bless you All at this time of Sorrow and fill your Hearts with Smiles and many Great Memories of times shared together, and Remember she is now your Angel looking down from Heaven and will be preparing for the day when you are all again joined. Rest in Peace Mrs. Haley.



Angela Ferro - May 05, 2020 at 05:16 AM

JH

“ 3 files added to the album *Haley Family Photos*



Jean Haley - May 04, 2020 at 09:04 PM

VI

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



vivian - May 04, 2020 at 09:01 PM