

Gail Lynn Carlson, 74, of Fertile, MN, passed away early Friday morning, May 17, 2024, in Altru Hospital, Grand Forks, ND, with her beloved family by her side just as they had been throughout her illness.

Gail was born in Crookston on August 8, 1949, one of 6 children of the union of Gerard "Minnie" and Gladys (Boucher) Menard. She was baptized and confirmed in St. Anne's Catholic Church and attended St. Joseph's Academy, graduating with the Class of 1967. On February 17, 1968 Gail was united in marriage to the love of her life, Dwain Ray Carlson, in a beautiful ceremony at St. Anne's. In the coming years Gail and Dwain would be blessed by the births of son, Luke, and daughter, Lorrie. In 1973 they moved from their Crookston home to nearby Fisher, and a year later to Gwinner, ND. From 1975 until 1981 the growing family lived in Grand Forks and then relocated to Dwain's hometown of Beltrami, MN. Gail then began working for the Diocese of Crookston doing data entry and accounting. In 1989 came a move to Warroad and while Dwain was employed with Marvin Windows, Gail worked in the office of St. Mary's Catholic Church. She later became an admitting clerk at Roseau Area Hospital before accepting a position as receptionist for Classic Changes. From 2005 until her retirement in 2011 Gail was a clerical specialist for Experience Works, a program within the Warroad School District serving the needs of pre-schoolers. Gail enjoyed many friendships made as a member of the Red Hat Society in Warroad. After their respective retirements Gail and Dwain returned to the area, settling in Fertile.

Throughout her life no matter where she called home Gail's deep and abiding faith in her Lord went with her. She was a longtime member of the Carmelites 3rd Order of Red Lake Falls, and attended Catholic Churches wherever she lived. She was considered to be a prayer warrior; known for her sincerity, kindness, caring, and loving and compassionate nature. Gail enjoyed serving her Church through retreats with TEC and Cursillo. Favorite pastimes included dancing, singing, drawing and painting, and making jewelry. Quieter moments found Gail listening to music and planning where she and Dwain's travels would take them next. While clothed in humbleness Gail was very proud to be the center of attention when given the greatest award she could ever receive, that of being named "Best Ever Wife, Mom, Grandma and Great-Grandma". Period!

Gail will be very sadly missed by Dwain, her beloved husband and best friend for over 56 years; their son and daughter-in-law, Luke and Reinette (Atkins) Carlson of Woodland, CA; daughter and son-in-law, Lorrie and Timothy Prosje of Crookston; 6 grandchildren: Roshelle Marie Carlson, Avalon Rose Carlson, Krysti Rae (Warne) Jensen, Holly Lea Warne, Kelly Lynn (Carlson) Facio, and Jon Michael Prosje; 2 great-grandchildren, Matias Carlson and Olyve Jensen; 2 foster great-grandchildren; 3 siblings: Janelle Denise Menard of Grand Forks, Gary Lee Menard and his wife, Sue (Conneran) Menard of Crookston, and Bonita "Bonnie" Joanne (Menard) Olson of Crookston; brother-in-law, David Brule of Gentilly, MN; and from Dwain's family 2 sisters-in-law, Connie (Don) Korynta of Grand Forks and Peggy (Don) Gallagher of Crookston; together with nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family, and many friends.

Gail is preceded in death by her parents, Gerard and Gladys Menard; sister, Kathleen Yvette (Menard) Brule; infant brother, Steven Joseph Menard, who died in 1953; parents-in-law, Ray and Lorraine Carlson; and brothers-in-law, Donald Carlson and Gary Carlson.

Blessed be the memory of Gail Lynn (Menard) Carlson.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Gail Lynn (Menard) Carlson

August 8, 1949 - May 17, 2024

The Prayer Service and Sharing of Memories

Wednesday, May 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception - Crookston, MN

Led by Fr. Pat Sullivan

Jean Lajesse, reader

"As the Deer" - Patricia Harren, soloist

Mass of Christ the Savior

Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.

Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception - Crookston, MN

The Rev. Larry Delaney, presiding

Concelebrants

Msgr. David Baumgartner, Fr. Pat Sullivan, Fr. John Kleinwachter

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 7:10-14

Romans 14:7-12

Readers - Jan Erickson and Gary Menard

Homily and Gospel

Fr. Larry Delaney - Luke 1:26-38

Special Music

"Here I Am, Lord"

"One Bread, One Body"

"Shepherd Me, O God"

"Hail Mary, Gentle Woman"

"Oh" page 103 in song book

"May the Angels"

"The Beatitudes"

"Prayer of St. Francis"

"Mass of Christ Our Savior"

"Pass it On"

Musicians - David St. Germaine, Patricia Harren

Therese McBride, Barb Kotta, Jeri Horner

Graveside Service

Fairview Cemetery - Beltrami, Minnesota

Thursday, May 23, 2024 at 4:30 p.m.

We would like to thank everyone for the outpouring of sympathy and love we have received and how much it has meant to us. Thank you for being with us during this difficult time, whether in body or spirit, as we Celebrate Gail's Life.

With Grateful Hearts,

*Dwain - Luke and Reinette - Lorrie and Tim - Two Generation Who Loved Grandma
Janelle - Gary and Sue - Bonnie - David - Connie and Don - Peggy and Don
and All of Our Family*



*"Best Ever Wife,
Mom, Grandma and
Great-Grandma"*

May all Life be Sanctified



O God, creator and giver of all life,
through the intercession of St. Gerard Majella
(patron saint of expectant mothers) and
St. Gianna Beretta Molla (defender of human life)
hear our prayers. We pray for a change of heart among
our political leaders. May they see the dignity of each
human life no matter its age, its strength or its convenience.
We pray that our spiritual leaders will be courageous
in boldly proclaiming the truth of the Gospel of Life.
And we pray for ourselves, may we be a beacon of
light in a world so accustomed to the darkness.
We ask this in the Name of Jesus, your Son, through the
intercession of St. Gerard and St. Gianna. Amen

Fr. Don Braukmann