

GAIL ULAGER

Passed away on Monday, February 5, 2024 at home, in the loving presence of her devoted husband of 60 years, Frank. Born Gail Anita Vesta, daughter of Gwendolen and Robert Vesta, she was a graduate of Moon High School, class of 1959. She went on to attend Juniata College where she majored in Mathematics. This led to a prolific career where she touched many minds and hearts as a math teacher at Moon Area School District, remedial math coordinator and instructor at Robert Morris College, and around the kitchen table where she tutored (and fed) countless students over many years. Gail and her husband loved their Slovenian heritage. They were active in their local Slovene-American community, where they danced many polkas and made many dear friends. An avid reader since childhood, her love of books persisted even after a stroke took much of her vision. She continued to read two books at a time to the end of her days. A phenomenal cook, she especially loved baking, which was her favorite way to show love. Like many Slovene bakers, she was particularly proud of her potica recipe, which she developed from scratch based on Frank's childhood memories and an old shopping list of his mother's. As a friend, Gail was known for a deep, joyful laugh and a steadfast, abiding presence. She was always available for a conversation, whether the matter be lighthearted or serious. As mother and grandmother, she was a consummate nourisher in the broadest of ways. She provided for our bodies as a cook, for our minds as an educator, for our hearts with her love, and for our souls through the gift of her deep faith. In addition to her husband, she is survived by three children, Lisa (Jerry), Linda, and Jim (Alicia); her seven grandchildren, Kate, Jesse, CJ, Anna, Abigail, Joseph and Matthew; and her sister, Roberta (Joan). Her family would like to thank the many people who touched her life, particularly during those later years as her independence declined. The countless visits, rides, invitations, and general outpouring of love from so many people filled the last years of her rich life with abundant grace. Friends will be received at the **R.D. COPELAND FUNERAL HOME**, 981 Brodhead Rd, Moon Twp., on Thursday, February 8th from 6 - 8 and Friday, February 9th from 2 - 4 and 6 - 8 PM. A prayer service will be done at the funeral home on Saturday, February 10th at 8:30 AM followed by burial at Resurrection Cemetery. For those wishing to make donations in Gail's memory, her family has suggested the following organizations which were dear to her heart: Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation: <https://pkdcure.org/> or Mater Christi School (grandchildrens' school): <https://mcschool.org/donate>

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