

DEBORAH MOLNAR GUNIA



Deborah Molnar Gunia, 86, of Santa Paula, CA, died peacefully on July 25, 2024, in Ventura, CA.

Deb was born in Pittsburgh, PA, to Joseph Jr. and Agnes (Uveges) Molnar. Growing up in Pittsburgh as a second generation Hungarian-American, she was active with her family in local Hungarian organizations, and she attended Taylor Alderdice High School, where she found her love of reading and

libraries. In 1964, Deb moved to California with her husband, Herman W. Gunia, and children, settling in Redlands in 1965, where she worked for a time at the Redlands School District. Deb later returned to school to earn a Masters Degree in Library Science, allowing her to pursue her lifelong dream career as a Librarian. Deb moved to Maryland in 1981, and worked at Nimitz Library at the U.S. Naval Academy between 1981-1987. She then returned to California, still in civil service with the Navy, becoming the librarian at Moreell Library for CECOS at the CB base in Port Hueneme, until her retirement in 2006. At times during these years, she also worked at Ventura County libraries as they transitioned to digital catalogs. Not content to relax into retirement, Deb took on the job of librarian at Santa Paul High School, 2006-2013 and loved helping young readers find their new favorite books and authors.

We remember Deb's deep love of music. Classical and Hungarian traditional music were her favorite genres, and many have fond memories of her dancing the csárdás with her uncles, cousins, and anyone who could keep up with her. She also sang and was a member of a Sweet Adelines chorus in Redlands for a few years before her move back east.

Surviving are brother Joseph (Elaine) Molnar III; sister Judith Molnar; children, Marlaine (Steve) Robinson, Herman L. Gunia, Lisa C. Gunia; grandchildren, Benjamin (Kayla) Robinson, Jacob Gunia, Jennie (Jesse) Marquez, Janielle (Juan) Mendoza; six beloved great-grandchildren; Uncle Jim Uveges; countless cousins, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; and her sister, Esther Kuhre.

Always wishing to be of service, Deborah chose to donate her entire body to the UCLA School of Medicine to aid in the education of future medical professionals.

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