



Gean Faye Durbin

June 14, 1940 - November 6, 2020

Cedar Falls-Gean Faye Durbin, 80, died Friday, November 6, 2020 at the Western Home Communities-Martin Suites.

She was born June 14, 1940 in Cedar Falls, the daughter of George and Helen (Harken) Gersema. She married Stanley E. Durbin May 22, 1964 in Cedar Falls. He died July 18, 2011.

Gean graduated from Cedar Falls High School in 1958 and received her BA degree in Art from the University of Northern Iowa. She was a homemaker and lived her entire life in the 50613 zip code.

Survived by: daughter Shelly (Brian) Arntson of Olathe, KS; three sons, Terry (Christine) of Lakeville, MN, Troy of Thornton, CO, and Ryan (Natalia) of Iowa City; three grandchildren; three great grandchildren; and three sisters, Gwen (Jerry) Hayes of Atlantic, Janae Drefke of Springfield, MO; and Georgene (Tom) Arthur of Sun City, FL

Gean deeded her body to the University of Iowa College of Medicine for scientific purposes. A Celebration of Life will occur at a later date. Online condolences may be left at: www.richardsonfuneralservice.com. Memorial contributions may be directed to the Cedar Bend Humane Society.

Tribute Wall

JA

“Gean & my mom, Marilyn Geesaman were good friends for as long as I can remember. Gean watched me before & after school at Humbert. I took Gean to my mom's birthday celebration last December & I'm glad I got to do that for both of them. She will be missed as will her caramels and pies that she loved to make.

Julie (Geesaman) Anderson - November 10, 2020 at 11:38 PM

SD

“What a wonderful, creative, bright soul Gene was, always smiling. I have many special memories as her as my cousin. The large Christmas Dinners when Aunt Helen was alive; good times with Gene and her sisters. She was always an optimist even when she and Shelly were finding a new path in life. She gave me a great bridal shower which included one of her hand pictures as a gift. I always marveled at her garden and also the decorating of her home. After moving back to Cedar Falls it was always great to hear her sing with a group from the Western Home and to hear her play bells. She was one of a kind!! Susan (Gersema) Duncan

Susan (Gersema) Duncan - November 10, 2020 at 10:23 AM

EF

“I remember this wonderful Lady! Her and her husband opened their home to a group of RAGBRAI bike riders! She had a beautiful home and backyard full of beautiful flowers!!! My husband and I will always remember her and her BEAUTIFUL backyard! We only meet her one time and will never forget her! Ed and Lois Figgins from Atlantic, Iowa

Ed and Lois Figgins - November 09, 2020 at 05:07 PM

CM

“ Oh my the memories of Gean!!!! I can't remember how many years we enjoyed ringing bells together in Church. We had so much fun. Still can't imagine ringing those low base bells like she did. When the bell choir took a road trip to Texas, we were room mates or house mates. We got to go to the "sales open market" in Dallas. We really got some swell Christmas ornaments. Then I would be amiss if I forgot all those excellent cherry pies she made from her tree out front. We chuckled about her house with 2 separate garages. She had such an incredible decorations, hobbies, jokes, love for life. Heaven received a beautiful new angle!

C. J. (Carol) McCunniff

Carol McCunniff - November 09, 2020 at 04:43 PM

BM

“ My deepest sympathy on the lo of Gean. I met Gean shortly after we moved to Western Home Communities. I was very impressed with her many talents and we sang alto together in the Windy Hill Singers. She could make an afghan in one night or whip up a pie in an instant. She loved her family and her 3 cats! It was my pleasure to have known Gean.

Bev Michael

Beverly Michael - November 09, 2020 at 04:10 PM

AJ

“ I remember Gean as she came to Trinity Bible Church for services in recent years. She always came in the northwest door and when my husband, Gene, was greeting there Gean would say, "I remember you!" as their families were neighbors in the College/12th St. area. It had been many months since I had seen her....
I pray that God will give you His peace and comfort today and in the days ahead.
Alice & Gene Janssen

Alice & Gene Janssen - November 09, 2020 at 11:28 AM

DP

“ I enjoyed meeting Gean. She was so creative with her garden art. I loved it and used some of her ideas in my yard. She was inspiring to me.

Dianne Peterson - November 08, 2020 at 07:15 PM

MW

“ Sincere sympathy in the loss of a dear family member. I remember the Gersema's from church as I was growing up, and graduated with Georgene in the class of 1964.

Remember always that "the rose still grows beyond the wall". May Gean rest in peace.

Mary Ellen Wheat - November 08, 2020 at 04:25 PM

SG

“ My deepest sympathies. I had known Gean since I was a child. She and my mom were church friends and rang handbells together. And then I got to work with her later at Jackson’s Auction. I was always impressed by her work ethic, creativity, and humor. She was one of my favorite people. I have an Afghan that she made for me. I will cherish it always. Gean will be terribly missed.

Susie (Newsom) Grover - November 08, 2020 at 02:24 PM

JV

“ My deepest condolences to you the family. I was always impressed with Gean’s beautiful yard of flowers and plants, her blessed gift to her community.
Jacky Venenga

Jacky Venenga - November 08, 2020 at 02:15 PM

SS

“ Gean and Stan were wonderful neighbors. We offer our sincere condolences to the Durbin family as you celebrate her life. God bless you all. Scott and Donna Schneider

Scott and Donna Schneider - November 08, 2020 at 09:55 AM

AW

“ We hold fond memories of Gean when we all worked at Jackson Auction Co. She made wonderful treats for all of us. We last visited her at the Deery Center. We extend our sincere sympathy to all her family. Alan & Marilyn Walker

Alan & Marilyn Walker - November 07, 2020 at 07:38 PM

SC

“ *Dear family
So very sorry for your loss
Gean was a long time friend of my mom, Alicia Caley
She was always a joy to be around and her caramels were the best
May she Rest In Peace
Sue Caley*

Sue Caley - November 07, 2020 at 06:11 PM

JA

Gean's caramels were the best ever!

Julie (Geesaman) Anderson - November 10, 2020 at 11:19 PM