



Gretchen Anne Klobucar

August 30, 1959 - September 30, 2023

Gretchen Anne Klobucar (Brubaker) age 64 of Baldwin, Michigan passed away at home on Saturday, September 30, 2023 with her loving husband Don at her side after a fierce battle with colon cancer.

Gretchen was born on August 30, 1959 to Joseph and Janet Brubaker. Her love for life started early, growing up with brothers Morgan, Dennis, Eric and Kurt in Midland, MI. After graduating from Midland Dow High School in 1977, she went on to Central Michigan University. Gretchen's career with the McDonald's Corporation began in April of 1977 and lasted through October of 2016. She loved to talk and was passionate about the business - her favorite position with the company was showing off her impressive presentation skills as a Mid-Management Training Consultant. Just imagine – you can get paid to speak for a living!

It was during her time with the McDonald's Corporation that she caught the eye of Don Klobucar. It was love at first sight for Don! After he won her heart, the two spent 42 years as husband and wife. Gretchen and Don raised their children in Hudsonville, MI and in 2009 they moved to their lakefront home on Wolf Lake, in Baldwin, MI. It was here that they spent hours growing and caring for her beautiful gardens, entertaining family and friends and cruising around the lake on the pontoon. More than anything, she adored being a grandmother!

After her colon cancer diagnosis on May 3, 2017, Gretchen and Don became strong advocates for early colon cancer screenings. Gretchen left her mark on the fight against colon cancer by participating in six phase one clinical trials to help others in their work towards a cure. She was truly the definition of a warrior.

Gretchen was preceded in death by her father Joseph Brubaker of Gladwin, MI, and her brother Morgan Brubaker (Janis Adams) of Evergreen, CO.

Gretchen will be greatly missed by her husband Don Klobucar of Baldwin; their three children Jeremy (Angie) Klobucar of Clarkston, Serena (Brent) Eckhardt of Grand Rapids, and Bryan (Meghan) Klobucar of Norwich, NY; her beloved grandchildren Jack, Ashlyn and Brooks Klobucar; her mother Janet Brubaker of Midland; her brothers Dennis (Susan) Brubaker of Midland, Eric (Heather) Brubaker of Midland, and Kurt (Laura) Brubaker of Eagle Point, OR; her brothers and sisters in law William "Dirk" (Judy) Klobucar of Baton Rouge, LA, Keith (Kimberly) Klobucar of Dryden, MI, and Kevin (Patti) Klobucar of Hilton Head, SC. Gretchen will also be missed by many special nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews; great aunts, cousins and special "McFamily" she has been blessed with over the years (Jim and Shonna Peterson). Gretchen will also be missed by her two wonderful "sisters by choice" Kathy Rodewald and Laurie Taylor.

The Funeral Mass will be celebrated for Gretchen at 11:00 am on Friday, October 6 at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Baldwin. Friends may visit with her family prior to Mass from 10:00 – 11:00 am at the church. Those who wish to remember Gretchen with a memorial donation are asked to please consider the Bread of Life Food Pantry or Grandma's Cupboard Baby Pantry through St. Ann's Catholic Church, both are organizations Gretchen cared deeply for.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **6**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
740 East 9th Street
Baldwin, MI 49304

Celebration of Mass

OCT **6**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Ann's Catholic Church
740 East 9th Street
Baldwin, MI 49304

Tribute Wall



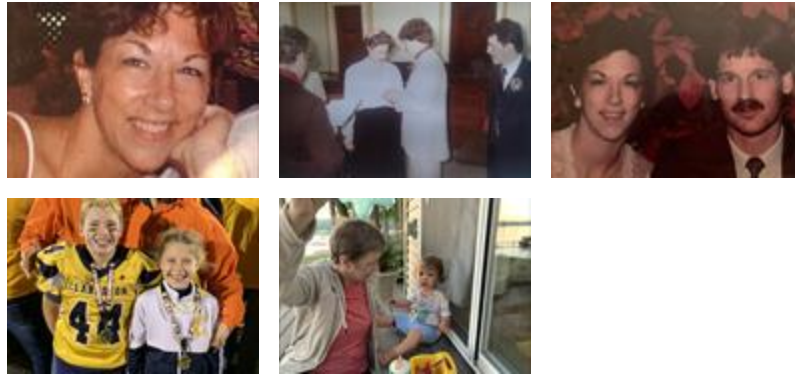
“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 06, 2023 at 08:54 AM

DK

“ *5 files added to the tribute wall*



Don Klobucar - October 05, 2023 at 02:47 PM

PS

Hard to put into words what an amazing person Gretchen was, She will be missed. ❤️

Perry Siler - October 06, 2023 at 07:46 AM

TB

“ Don and family: I am so sorry for your loss. From the obituary, it's clear Gretchen was an amazing person. She would have to be to endure all the clinical trials on the hope that it would benefit not just her but so many others. May Gods help you along the long journey of healing. I will keep all of you in my daily prayers.

Tom Barnes - October 05, 2023 at 01:26 PM

NB

I just came across this sad news on my high school Facebook page. Gretchen and I went to school together at Siebert, Jefferson and Dow. Although Gretchen and I didn't hangout in the same crowds when we were older in high school I always liked her. Gretchen was always a bubbly, happy and friendly person. I had her in my kindergarten class and remember she and I got in trouble for talking during nap time and couldn't lay our rugs down by each other afterwards! I am sorry for your loss, she was always a source of light.

Nancy Bramblett - January 04, 2024 at 07:02 PM

LL

“ Love, Christa,Sage,Caren,Brandie Lerverse purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



Love, Christa,Sage,Caren,Brandie Lerverse - October 05, 2023 at 01:18 PM



“ Loving Lilies and Roses Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 05, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.

October 05, 2023 at 10:54 AM



“ Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 05, 2023 at 10:22 AM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 05, 2023 at 02:38 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.

October 05, 2023 at 02:38 AM



“ Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 04, 2023 at 12:40 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 03, 2023 at 08:33 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 03, 2023 at 07:29 PM



“ *Don, favorite memory of you and your lovely wife, Gretchen. We were all sitting around the campfire at Mike and Linda's and I think I made some comment about how awesome I thought you were the best couple ever. I love your faces in these pictures. She will always be in the hearts of anyone who ever met her. God bless. Much love, Karen Langlois (Lucia's friend).*



Karen Langlois - October 03, 2023 at 05:19 PM

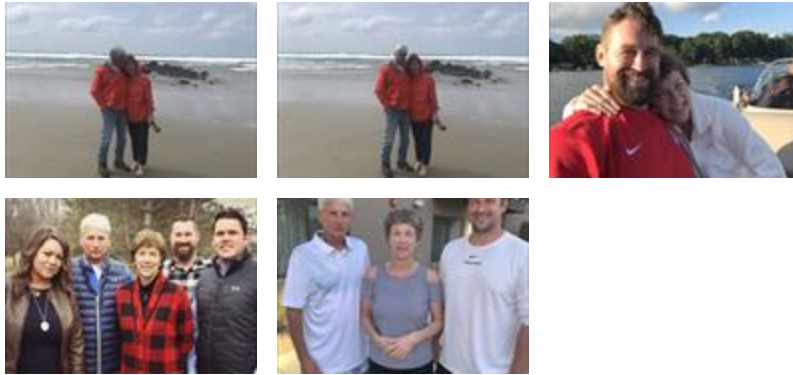
CB

“ Cheryl B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.

Cheryl B. - October 03, 2023 at 02:12 PM

MK

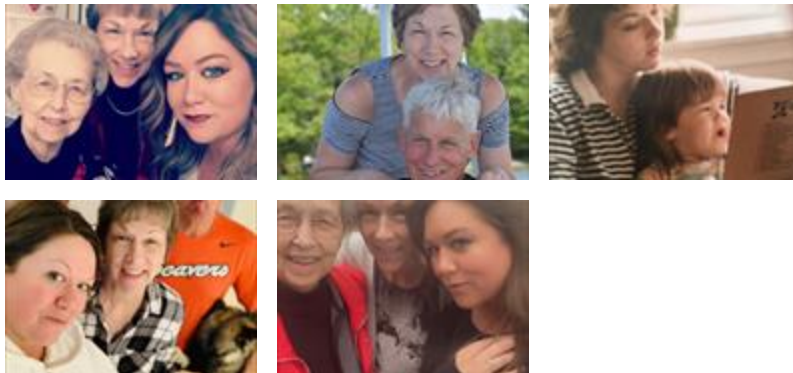
“ 9 files added to the tribute wall



Meghan Klobucar - October 03, 2023 at 06:06 AM

SE

“ 6 files added to the tribute wall



Serena Eckhardt - October 02, 2023 at 06:37 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.

October 02, 2023 at 05:29 PM



“ Tina and Franz Blattner and Carol Boruta purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



Tina and Franz Blattner and Carol Boruta - October 02, 2023 at 05:15 PM



“ Gretchen was a truly remarkable woman. From her energy, creativity, and zest for life, she faced her cancer battle with such courage and positivity. She is truly an inspiration.

Emily Gregory - October 02, 2023 at 05:12 PM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 02, 2023 at 03:04 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 02, 2023 at 01:41 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 02, 2023 at 01:20 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 02, 2023 at 12:52 PM



“ *Gretchen's strength, kindness, smile and attitude of positivity was a light to all who knew her and will continue to burn bright in each of our hearts. Thank you for gracing this world with your presence and making it a better place because you were in it.*

Rebecca Spohn - October 02, 2023 at 12:52 PM

JP

A truly beautiful soul, she lit up a room with her smile and bubbly personality. I loved when she and Don would come to our office for class. We would talk about our gardens and she would show me pictures of her kids and grandchildren. I will miss her! You're all in my thoughts and prayers. Jeannie Philips

Jeannie Philips - October 03, 2023 at 11:29 AM

RS

“ Rebecca S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.

Rebecca S. - October 02, 2023 at 12:45 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 02, 2023 at 12:17 PM



“ Tender Tribute was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.



October 02, 2023 at 11:40 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 02, 2023 at 11:13 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*



October 02, 2023 at 09:19 AM



“ *A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Gretchen Anne Klobucar.*

October 02, 2023 at 09:19 AM