



Gale L. Starks

November 5, 1949 - January 23, 2022

Gale L. Starks, age 72 of Highland, IL, died Sunday, January 23, 2022, at Bria of Cahokia in Cahokia Heights, IL.

She was born on Saturday, November 05, 1949, in Olney, IL, the daughter of William and Mary (nee Slichenmeyer) Dickerson.

On Friday, March 16, 1979, she married Edward W. Starks who passed away on Monday, September 20, 2004.

She was a member of First Congregational Church of Highland and the VFW Post 5694 Auxiliary, Highland.

Gale was born in Olney, IL. She moved to Highland in 1953 and had lived there ever since. She graduated from Highland High School in 1967, and went to SIU-Edwardsville for 2 years. While attending Highland High School, she was a cheerleading captain. She worked as a paralegal mostly at Stolar Partnership in St. Louis, MO. Before retirement she worked at SIU-Edwardsville for 4 years. She was a 20 plus year liver transplant survivor, receiving the transplant in 2000. She enjoyed oil painting, playing piano, reading, scrap booking, writing poems, art on the square, traveling, trips on the Great River Road, camping with family, dancing, swimming, and singing with choir at First Congregational Church, Highland, IL. Her two favorite things

were the fall season and Jasmine, her cat.

Survivors include:

Son - Ryan E. (Significate Other Angie J. Brueck) Starks, Greenville, IL

Son - Darrin W. (Candi M.) Starks, Highland, IL

Former Daughter In-Law - Christina M. DiMaggio, Highland, IL

Brother - John W. "Bud" (Jeannie) Dickerson, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Nicolo DiMaggio, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Noah E. Starks, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Landen J. Starks, Greenville, IL

Grandchild - Lilyana N. Starks, Highland, IL

Grandchild - Lacey J. Starks, Greenville, IL

Grandchild - Luke J. Starks, Greenville, IL

Grandchild - Sebastian W. Starks, Highland, IL.

She was preceded in death by:

Father - William H. "Bill" Dickerson - Died 2/21/2014

Mother - Mary Ester (nee Slichenmeyer) Dickerson - Died 6/22/1986

Husband - Edward W. Starks - Died 09/20/2004.

Arrangements are being handled by Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL.

Celebration of Life will be held from 6:00 PM to on Friday, February 04, 2022, at Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home in Highland, IL with Pastor Matt Mendenhall, Lead Pastor, Smith Grove Baptist Church, Greenville, IL, officiating. A visitation from 5:00 to 6:00 PM will be held prior to the Celebration of Life.

Memorial Service will be at 11:00 AM on Saturday, February 05, 2022, at First Congregational Church, Highland, IL, with Pastor Richard W. Cook, officiating.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Family (payable to Darrin Starks) or to Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home to help with funeral expenses.

Tribute Wall



“ *Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home & Dauderman Mortuary created a Tribute Video in memory of Gale L. Starks*



Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - February 02, 2022 at 10:22 AM

LD

“ *I met Gale when she joined JOY Singers, and although she wasn't able to sing with us for very long, she was there long enough for us to become friends. She was so pleasant to be around, and had such a nice sense of humor. I loved reading her Facebook posts; they always brought a smile. I am so sorry that she has passed; I will miss her.*

Linda Driesner - February 09, 2022 at 01:14 PM

CS

“ *Candi Starks lit a candle in memory of Gale L. Starks*



candi starks - February 05, 2022 at 11:20 AM

CH

“ Our Creator has called another Loving and Cherished Angel to make Her back home to be safe and secure by His side. I pray that her two boys along with their children,wife,and S.O. believe in their hearts as completely as I do, that even though the Heaven Sent Blessing we referred to by the name Gale is only gone away physically, but spiritually Shes with each and every single one of us stride for stride, every single second of each day in its entirety. I send love and Wholehearted Support to Darrin & Ryan Starks and their families. May each and every one of you be guided through these incredibly sorrowful times by the lord's gentle hand of protection. Sincerely,
Curtis H.

Curtis H. - February 04, 2022 at 09:05 AM

EW

“ Emily Werder purchased the Fairest of All for the family of Gale L. Starks.



Emily Werder - February 03, 2022 at 08:11 PM

PB

“ So sad to have to say goodbye to my friend Gale. There were lots of happy years shared in friendship via our employment at The Stolar Partnership. We are always lucky when work-based friendships grow beyond that single link and thrive outside of the office setting. Gale and I were, for many years, just that. I have lots of wonderful memories, but our trip to Chicago in 2002 is real stand out. We really had a good time with our good friend, Maryann, joining in on the fun that weekend! Maryann and I were were a strong support system for Gale while she went through the various stages of liver failure which, thankfully, led to her successful transplant. As Gale became more and more ill waiting for her transplant, Maryann and I talked a few times about how we would handle the loss of our friend. I guess we were trying to prepare ourselves for a life event that one cannot, truly prepare for. We shared our thoughts with Gale after her transplant and my brain recalls Gale looking at both of us like we were completely nuts. She told us that she did not, not even once, believe that she would not come out on the other side, happy and healthy once again. I guess I could say that Gale seemed to always look at life through rose colored glasses; it was like she could not conceive that she would be knocked down by any of life's one-two punches. It didn't matter who was swinging those punches, she and her rose colored glasses stood firm. This is why I know in my heart that when Gale made her way through St. Peter's pearly gates, God's heavenly orchestra was playing "La Vie en Rose" to welcome her home into God's care. Hail and farewell my friend.

Patti Byrne - February 02, 2022 at 09:22 PM

EW

“ I hardly know what to say. I have been trying to find the "perfect" words to honor my dear friend, Gale. But though my memories are rich and bright, my words are feeble.



High School would not have been the same without Gale. Cheer leading would not have been the same. Nor would sleep-overs and other activities have been the same without her. She will always remain a huge and warm presence in my younger years. Gale was beyond talented. She was a great friend, always smiling and joking around.

I feel off balance and out of focus knowing she has passed. My eyes fill with tears as I think of her or look at her picture.

I send my most sincere sympathies and my deepest comfort to her family and friends; especially to you, Dear Bud.

Emily Werder

Emily Werder - February 02, 2022 at 04:42 PM

JP

“ *Gale and I shared a healthy and sheltered childhood growing up in Highland. It was a world of mutual friends, slumber parties, tag, bicycles, walking to school, movies at the Lory, roller skating, bowling, sock-hops, doing the twist and rock ‘n roll! It was a different and innocent time for us to grow up.*

I will always remember her at that age; hopeful, generous, laughing and mischievous.

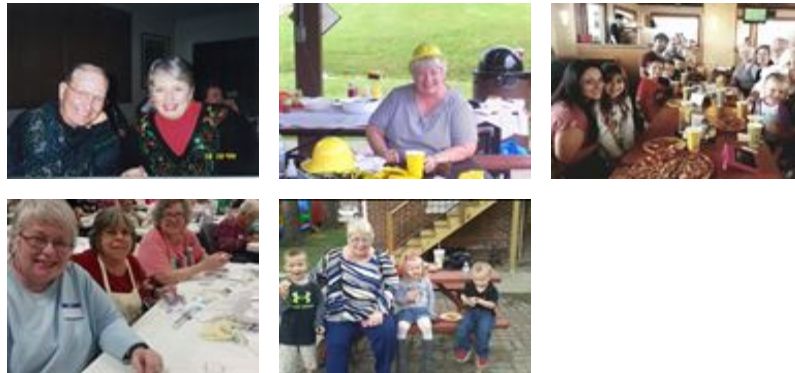
My condolences to her sons, her brother, Bud, and all her family and friends.

Jackie Sentenne’s Pettit

Jackie Sentenne Pettit - February 02, 2022 at 04:32 PM



“ *53 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Spengel-Boulanger Funeral Home - February 01, 2022 at 03:51 PM

RR

“ *Were sending our sympathy to the family of Gale I, Russell and Gale attended school together from elementary to High School Graduation. She was a great friend and will be trully missed.*
Russell & Marsha Rinderer



Russ & Marsha Rinderer - February 01, 2022 at 02:41 PM