



## Geraldine "Gerri" (Carlen) Steen

March 18, 2012

Steen, Geraldine Maria (Carlen) "Gerri" Born 6/22/1940. "My chocolate-eyed muffin" and "best woman in the world" died 3/7/2012 from a series of strokes at HCMC. Survived by husband, John; children, Michael, Jill, Darin, Johnny, and Julie; 10 grandchildren. Graduated Missoula County H.S. '58, Carleton College Northfield '62 with post-graduate degrees from Columbia University NY '66 in Liturgical Music. Premiere church organist, choir director and teacher for 56 years. Attended William Mitchell College of Law '84-'87 while employed full time. She was #1 in her class and later was a professor there. She was selected a law clerk at Minnesota Supreme Court to Honorable Douglas Amdahl, Chief Justice of the Court. Partner of law firm Beckman & Steen, Minnetonka since 1990. Memorial service 11 AM Friday, March 23, with gathering one hour prior at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, 519 Oak Grove St., Mpls. Private interment. In lieu of floral donations, Gerri and her family would appreciate charitable donations to either the Family Partnership (formerly Family & Children's Service) or Heifer International in her name. [www.Washburn-McReavy.com](http://www.Washburn-McReavy.com) Davies Chapel 612-377-2203

# Tribute Wall

RL

“ Gerri was a great attorney and represented me well for quite a few years. The Minnesota legal community is much poorer at her passing. For husband John and all the children and grandchildren, please accept my deepest and most sincere condolences. She was a great lady!

~

*Ron Linville,*

*Maricopa, Arizona*

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**Ron Linville** - April 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SF

“ We will miss Gerri at The Family Partnership. She was a wonderful board member.

~

*Shannon Fitzpatrick,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Shannon Fitzpatrick** - March 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ I will miss Gerri as she was a strong and caring woman. She always gave me positive direction thru difficult times. My prayers to her family and memory.

~

*Dirk Carter,*

*St . Louis Park, Minnesota*

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**Dirk Carter** - March 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

MH

“ John and family, Gerri was my family law professor at William Mitchell in 1996. She was the most energetic, devoted and inspiring professor I had while in law school. Her recall of case law was incredible and intimidating...you knew never to question or doubt her when she cited a case and what it stood for. Gerri's passion for helping people inspired me to pursue family law when I graduated. She was always eager to share her knowledge and to help me and others. Gerri encouraged me to pursue creating an independent study course in family law and agreed to be my supervising attorney. I cherished the time I spent with her when I was a student and the time I spent with her as a colleague. I will always remember Gerri's compassion for people, her intellect and her love for her family. She truly touched, helped and inspired many people. Gerri was one in a million and will truly be missed.

~

*Mark Herman,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Mark Herman** - March 23, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ John, I'm Very sorry for your loss but what I know you have gained is the happy times and all the travel you did together and that is a memory that will NEVER fade. Days will be different, the house will be lonely but John, you will rally, gain comfort from your friends, pleasure from the memories and the love for Gerri that will never die. Im glad you are on my staff and you have the suport of everyone. Thanks for being you and loving Gerri as you did. John W. Pedersen Scheduler Washburn-McReavy

~

*John W Pedersen,*

*Mpls, Minnesota*

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**John W Pedersen** - March 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JW

“ I am at a complete lose. I was so shocked when Darin told me. She offered me a chance no one else ever has. I miss her. My prayers to her family. The world is without a wonderful woman

~

*Jerilyn Weiler,*

*Minnetonka, Minnesota*

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**Jerilyn Weiler** - March 22, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SS

“ I am saddened by Gerri's death. She was a generous and caring friend who was there not only when I was in need, but also my children. She was tireless in her fight for friends and clients. I give thanks that I was able to call her friend. She was a gift to all who knew her. Peace to you, John. Peace to you, Gerri.

~

*Suzanne Sherman,*

*Grand Marais*

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**Suzanne Sherman** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SJ

“ I am so sorry to hear about Gerri's passing. She was a wonderful woman, remarkable attorney and a good friend to my family. She will indeed be missed by many. Sandi Jagnow (Orlando, FL)

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*Sandi Jagnow,*

*Orlando, Florida*

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**Sandi Jagnow** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SH

“ *John and Family, I am very sorry to hear of your loss, it sounds as if you lost an incredible wife and mother. I will hold you in my thoughts and prayers.*

~

*Sara Harrington,*

*Saint Paul, Minnesota*

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**Sara Harrington** - March 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ John, I will miss Gerri. She was a dear friend. She helped me with many things in my life. I will never forget her. My best to you,

~

Sue Vance,

Cannon Falls, Minnesota

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**Sue Vance** - March 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ *I'm shocked and saddened to hear of Gerri's passing. Not only did Gerri help me over the many years of our relationship but I can truly say she cared about me as a person. We became friends and I will always cherish that.*

~

*Robert Leach,*

*Minneapolis, Minnesota*

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**Robert Leach** - March 19, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Gerri was my divorce attorney and became my friend. I honor this great woman and am sad for those she left behind. Brenda Beam Pehrson*

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March 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM

RO

“ So shocked and sorry to hear about Gerri. She was a very kind, warm, unique and comforting woman. I remember her warm hug the first time I met her. She was such a genuine, caring soul. She will be missed by all who were lucky enough to have known her.

~

*Robyn,*

*Plymouth, Minnesota*

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**Robyn** - March 18, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *John & Children: My sons and I want you to know that although not having Gerri with us is, and forever will be, very hard on all that knew her, we are finding some peace knowing that Gerri is no longer in pain and is at peace in heaven, with family and friends that made the journey before her. We have never known anyone like Gerri and do not think we ever will. She was truly one of a kind!! We feel so honored to have had her in our lives. Gerri gave us hope when it did not seem like there was any. Although Gerri was the special one, she made us all feel like we were the special ones. Gerri was more than our Attorney, she was our friend. Thank you for sharing her with us these past 10+ years. Words cannot express how she will be missed. You have our deepest sympathy. Fran Forcier-Linc, Greg Linc, & Jason Rector*

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March 17, 2012 at 12:00 AM

JL

“ Dearest Steen family, as a long standing friend with Gerri, to hear of her passing was needless to say, a shock! She was one of those people that you thought would live forever...making wine, traveling, playing organ and THEN saving the world.:-)She was a gift to our whole family and I/we will miss her greatly!! The Larsens

~

*Jenny Larsen,*

*Mpls, Minnesota*

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**Jenny Larsen** - March 16, 2012 at 12:00 AM

LS

“ *John and family, I am so sorry for your loss and want you to know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. John, I know losing your wife and your very best friend is very hard, and it will take a long time to feel 'normal' again, but I will keep you in my prayers for God to give you the strength and support you need. John, you take care of yourself now.*

~

*Linda See,*

*New Brighton, Minnesota*

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**Linda See** - March 15, 2012 at 12:00 AM

BS

“ March 13, 2012 I cannot express how much Gerri touched my life. I met her when I began renting from her. I told her at that time that she made me feel special and that I could do anything. I am going to miss her so much. We had become friends and her passing has affected me deeply. Her spirit will live on in all of the lives that she touched. I am so grateful that she came into my life.

~

*Barbara Salser,*

*Hopkins, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Barbara Salser** - March 13, 2012 at 12:00 AM

SP

“ Gerri was an influential person in my life. She taught me to be unique, be strong, and stand up for others who can't always stand up for themselves. She taught me that a woman can be powerful, zany, spunky...age is just a number. Thank you, God, for making her a part of my life.

~

*Stacey Pederson,*

*Chaska, Minnesota*

*Contact Me*

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**Stacey Pederson** - March 11, 2012 at 12:00 AM