



Gretchen Le Gre

January 10, 1943 - July 31, 2021

Gretchen Le Gré, born Miller in Minneapolis, MN, has passed at 78 years old at home in Vero Beach, Florida. After college at the UMN, she married Russell Cowles in 1967, had 2 daughters Laura and Greta, and 2 step-daughters Melyssa and Amy Cowles. She divorced in 1974. Gretchen travelled the world riding dogsleds in Norway, elephants in Thailand, rickety trains in India, river boats in Russia and down the Nile, horses in Australia and Montana.

Comments from friends about her:

"I'll do it my way!" would be her motto from Sinatra", sang Peggy in Maine.

"One hell of a lady", Ricky in Switzerland.

"Her best companions were her dogs.", Marcia in North Carolina.

"Fiercely independent. Her pronouncing of the HAWAIIAN language was hilarious and we will miss her.", Aloha, David and Paula.

"She was a lady with a lot of spirit and fantasy, imagination, choosing her own ways", Francois in Florida/Switzerland.

"The long and winding road by the Beatles was her song", Famille Lonjons, France.

"She was extraordinary and there is no friend I have or have had that could fill the void of her being gone." Jane in California.

"She brought people together, capturing moments in often funny, astute short stories and collected pieces.", niece Christine in Minneapolis.

"She helped us find wings and fly", niece Suzanne in Minneapolis.

And she certainly flew, all over the world, residing in France, London, Hong Kong, Las Vegas, Montana, New York, Maine, Hawaii and Florida.

But I'm just a "Little pink worm", she'd say about herself.

She loved the idea of having the Zodiac sign of the Capricorn, as someone who is tenacious, hard working, climbing always higher, striving for what one cannot even see, but imagines. She will be joining her beloved parents Laurence Miller and Helen Gilster, and a troupe of feathered and furry friends will greet her, especially her little Pip, her black labrador Rudy, and teckel Mimi, Bobby, Ming, Teddy, Lucy, Irka, Bismark, Max, Rosie, Samy, and countless singing birds. She's survived by her daughters Laura Galantay Le Gré and Greta Hentsch-Cowles, her sisters Cathy Nelson and Mary Molke, her Grandchildren Daphne, Elektra, Penelope and Felix, and Alexa, nieces Suzanne, Christine and Kim, nephews Larry, Chris, Mark and David, and Eric and Lana.

Her funeral will be on Sunday August 15th, 10:30 AM. Flowers were loved and are welcome at Hillside Cemetery, 2600 19th Av. NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418.

Previous Events

Funeral

AUG 15. 10:30 AM (CT)

Hillside Chapel
2610 19th Avenue N.E.
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-1999
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Tribute Wall

JF

“ *Jane Downing - Lifelong Friend purchased the Lovely One Spathiphyllum Plant for the family of Gretchen Le Gre.*



Jane Downing - Lifelong Friend - August 14, 2021 at 07:39 PM

JD

“ *Gretchen has been a life long friend since our 20s in Minneapolis. We met working as travel agents in Mpls. in the 60's and became friends and shared an apartment looking over a Minneapolis Lake. She met Russell Cowles and married (I was the Maiden of Honor) and I enjoyed seeing them build their family. Such lovely, bright girls! Gretchen and I were friends for life over 5 decades and she is irreplaceable in my life. I wish I had been in more communication with her these last few decades...so here is what can be learned from this. Just contact people you love every time you think about them. Our time will come to pass on. Just think about what a difference you can make in someone's life by just showing up for a chat. Love doesn't stop at death...with love to her family and other friends, jane downing*

jane downing - August 14, 2021 at 06:45 PM

PA

I'm so sorry for your loss Jane, it's hard losing someone you have loved for so long. She will always reside in your heart and you will reminisce over the laughter you shared and the love that will continue.

Paula - August 14, 2021 at 07:53 PM

TV

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



The van Vliets - August 14, 2021 at 11:34 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Gretchen Le Gre.



August 13, 2021 at 01:49 PM

EH

“ *Erik Hinshaw* purchased the *Heart's Companion Bouquet* for the family of Gretchen Le Gre.



Erik Hinshaw - August 13, 2021 at 01:17 PM

DH

“ *Darren Yoshioka Hawaii.* purchased the *Peaceful White Lilies Basket* for the family of Gretchen Le Gre.



Darren Yoshioka Hawaii. - August 13, 2021 at 01:13 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Gretchen Le Gre.*



August 13, 2021 at 10:19 AM



“ *Melyssa Cowles and Steve Vorhees purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Gretchen Le Gre.*



Melyssa Cowles and Steve Vorhees - August 12, 2021 at 06:14 PM