



Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich

January 17, 1933 - February 19, 2026

Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich

Gerri fell asleep in the Lord on February 19, 2026, full of days, at the age of 93, in her home in Brooklyn Park, MN, surrounded by her loving family. She had a vibrant, kind spirit with a great sense of humor that made everyone she met feel welcomed and loved.

Born in Málaga, Santander, Colombia, on January 17, 1933, to Lino Tapias Velasco and Guillermina Guarín de Tapias (née Guarín Blanco), she was the youngest of 10 children. Her family later moved to Cúcuta, Colombia. She studied at Colegio Adventista Icolven in Medellín, Colombia, and spent time as a successful colporter in Venezuela and Colombia. She learned the family trade of tailoring exceptionally well, made her own clothes, and was always beautifully dressed.

Gerri was an independent Latina who came to live with friends in the U.S.A. in the 1960s, coincidentally arriving the day John F. Kennedy was shot. She shared that it scared her and made her think about going right back to Colombia, but she ultimately decided to stay. Gerri lived in Minnesota for the

majority of her life. Her superior tailoring skills landed her a job at Dayton's Oval Room, a designer clothing store. Her favorite job was at Cedric's clothing store, where she again used her tailoring skills on high-end designer clothing. She also made many clothes for her children.

In 1968, she married John Heinrich. Though this relationship was not permanent, together they had four children, Betty, Jolina, Gloria, and John David, and remained in touch throughout their lives. An exceptionally devoted mother, Gerri dedicated her children to God and worked tirelessly for them. Her joy, love, and forgiveness of her children and grandchildren were enduring, and she prayed for them daily.

She especially cherished fun family holidays spent with Tom and Linda Leanger and their boys, Dave and Steve, as well as many treasured memories with family friends Darlene and Leo, Roger and Sylvia, and their children. Gerri also enjoyed many happy memories with her children at Minnesota Campmeeting and North Star Camp. Some of her favorite activities were spending time with her grandchildren, walking, and being outdoors.

As a most faithful believer in Christ, Gerri constantly shared her faith with her family and anyone she met. She was a true prayer warrior who showed her love to everyone. A lifelong member of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, she volunteered in many capacities, including as a church greeter, a deaconess, and in prison ministries. Her first membership was at La Iglesia Adventista del Séptimo Día en Málaga, Santander, Colombia, and her last membership was at Pathways Adventist Church, a church plant she helped start in Osseo, MN, to which she was devoted. Her greatest desire was to see all her loved ones and friends in heaven-Más allá del sol.

Gerri was preceded in death by her parents, Lino Tapias Velasco and Guillermina Guarín de Tapias (née Guarín Blanco), and her brothers (sisters-in-law), Alfonso (Luisa), Fernando (Alcira), Lulio (Inés), Alberto, Luis Martín (Mercedes), Josué, and Lino, and her sisters (brother-in-law), Rosalba and Florelva (Campo Elías). She is survived by her daughter, Betty (Magdiel Tapias) Tapias-Heinrich and grandchildren, Joy Vannezza Tapias, Azriel (Tina) Tapias Marin and great-grandchildren Azena and Ezra, Magdiel (Vanessa Tapias-Ressen) Tapias, Daniel Tapias; daughter, Jolina (Rafael) Villamizar and grandchildren, Zachary (Chloe) Heinrich, Rafael Villamizar, and Nicholas Villamizar; daughter Gloria (Larry) Olson, and grandchildren, Nathan (Abby) Olson and great-grandchildren Ellie and Kinsley, Taylor (Jacob) Jones, Amanda (Cole) Nash, and Michael Olson; and son, John (Kimberly) Heinrich, and grandchildren Matthew Heinrich and Abigail Heinrich; sister-in-law Luz Eddy Arango de Tapias; very special friends, Gladys, Linda, Jean, Judy, Tricia, Lynette, Barb, Joyce, Natalya, Luba and many more friends and extended family members who will miss her dearly.

The funeral service will be on Friday, February 27, at noon, with a one-hour visitation prior to the service at Pathways Adventist Church (in the Osseo United Methodist Church building), 16 Second Avenue SE, Osseo, MN 55369. A luncheon will follow the service, and interment will be after the luncheon at the Washburn-McGreavy Glen Haven Cemetery, 5125 West Broadway, Crystal, MN 55429.

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 27. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Pathways Adventist Church
16 2nd Ave SE
Osseo, MN 55369

Church Service

FEB 27. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Pathways Adventist Church
16 2nd Ave SE
Osseo, MN 55369

Graveside Service

FEB 27. 2:45 PM - 3:15 PM (CT)

Glen Haven Memorial Gardens
5125 West Broadway
Crystal, MN 55429

Tribute Wall

JE

“ Jerry & Espie purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich.



Jerry & Espie - February 27 at 03:57 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich.

February 26 at 08:24 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich.



February 26 at 08:24 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich.



February 26 at 09:41 AM

TL

“ Tim L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich.

Tim L. - February 25 at 10:55 PM

JB

“ With heartfelt memories I honor Gerri who was a shining example of kindness, and integrity who shared her love and goodness for God to everyone she met. To have known her was to see what it means to live with purpose, warmth, love and strength. She rests now til that resurrection day! I pray we all be there for a Happy Reunion!

Joyce Beldin - February 24 at 12:49 PM



“ Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Guillermina "Gerri" Heinrich.



February 24 at 11:42 AM



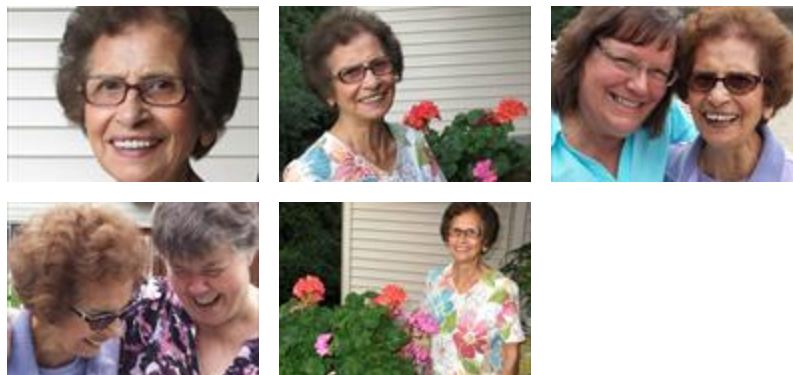
“ Gerri was such a gracious woman of God. Sweet, funny and a prayer warrior. She always cared about what was happening in your world, was easy to talk to and full of faith! Miss you Miss Gerri! (This picture is serving and helping sweep and prepare the Pathways church space)



Shelina Bonjour - February 23 at 10:38 PM

BL

“ My most treasured memory of Gerri was her smile, kind spirit and her love and faith in Jesus. She lived what she believed, loved her family beyond measure and her greatest desire was their love of Jesus. I loved visiting her and bringing her homemade blueberry muffins. She will be missed. I look forward to the day when Jesus comes and opens the graves of all who loved Him. What a great day that will be, never more to part again.



Barbara Lokken - February 23 at 10:14 PM