



Gayl L. Johnson

February 10, 1947 - March 15, 2026

Gayl L. Johnson, age 79, of Marquette, Michigan, was welcomed into the arms of Jesus on Sunday, March 15, 2026, following a sudden fall while visiting family in Pennsylvania.

She was born on February 10, 1947, in Bradford, PA, to the late Donald and Betty Weilacher Phillips.

Gayl attended Northern Michigan University, where she obtained a Bachelor of Science in Social Work. She decided to continue her education, earning a degree in Criminal Justice, and worked as a correctional officer until she retired. Gayl was a loving homemaker who devoted her life to her family. She poured her heart into ensuring her children had everything they needed.

Gayl was a strong woman of deep faith in God. If her body were as strong as her faith, she would have been superhuman. Gayl faithfully read her bible and was a dedicated prayer warrior. She was a member of the Crossbridge Church in Ishpeming, MI, and attended the Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in Marquette, MI with her husband.

Gayl always looked forward to traveling any chance she could. She loved spending time with her family and hosting holiday gatherings. Gayl also enjoyed sewing, gardening, camping, hunting, fishing, farming, and the comfort of her dogs.

She is survived by her loving husband, Donald Johnson, whom she married in August of 1995; her seven children, Tamala "Skeeter" Clark, Ronda (Terry) Parkkonen, Jay (Jill) Barrett, Tim (Amy) Barrett, Joe (Ludy) Johnson, Robert

(Joni) Johnson, and Kelly Johnson; fourteen grandchildren, Jessica (Mack) Flanagan, Christopher (Stephanie) Parkkonen, Sarah (Stephen) Hooper, Alyssa (William) Eales, Jayson (Tami) Barrett, Michael Siple, Ethan (Jodi) Bertucci, Kyla Barrett, Fisher Barrett, Joelene Johnson, Taylor Johnson, Ryan Johnson, Travis Johnson, and Adam Johnson; and eight great-grandchildren, Emmett Flanagan, Eloise and Reggie Parkkonen, Alia and Vera Hooper, Nash and Ryder Bertucci, and Hunter Johnson; and two bonus grandchildren, Ethan (Auora) Lundquist and his children, Greyson Stull and Grace Lundquist, and Elaina Sylvester, whom she raised, as well as numerous foster children she loved dearly.

Gayl is also survived by her brother, Gary (Sherry) Phillips, and sister-in-law, Cathy Phillips Fehr, as well as numerous nieces and nephews, great-nieces and nephews, and wonderful friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Stanley Phillips.

The Robert V. Burns Funeral Home in Clarion, PA, has the distinct honor of serving the family.

Family and friends will be received from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, April 25, 2026, at CrossBridge Church, 119 N Third Street, Ishpeming, MI, 49849, where a memorial service will follow at 12 p.m. A luncheon will be provided following the service.

Inurnment will take place at Prince of Peace Lutheran Cemetery in Marquette, MI, at a later date in the summer.

Tribute Wall

LK

“ To Gayl’s Family,
I am so sorry to hear about Gayl. I met Gayl when we both were working at MBP and then got to visit with her at Prince of Peace. And we both had the same hobby, thrifting, so we would see each other at various places. What a kind gal she was. My thoughts and prayers are with you. 🙏

Lois Kampe - March 20 at 02:26 PM

DL

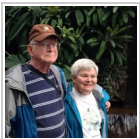
“ To Tammy and all your family. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Your mom was a sweet lady. ❤️🙏

Debra Love-Anthony - March 18 at 06:10 PM



“ Even though it’s been years since I have seen Aunt Gayl I have many fond memories of staying with her, my uncle Jerry and cousins. I loved staying there! She always made me feel special. I know she will be missed but I’m thankful that she is now with her Lord and Savior!

Christy Adams Haskell - March 18 at 09:49 AM



“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Sherry Phillips - March 17 at 06:09 PM

SP

Many memories, many pictures of good times shared. Gayl and I were friends in Girl Scouts and church long before i married her brother. Her love was sincere and her life was an inspiration to all whose lives she touched,

Sherry Phillips - March 19 at 04:51 PM

TT

“ I will always remember Aunt Gayl’s positive attitude and love she had for her family! She will be missed!💕💕

Tina Thomas - March 17 at 12:24 PM



“ The Barrett and Johnson Family please accept my condolences. Aunt Gayle was always my favorite, not sure if you knew that. I will always cherish the time Skeet asked me to ride with her to Michigan to pick up Jessica. Aunt Gayle was the perfect hostess, even though I probably can count the number of times I had the opportunity to spend time with her. Her and Skeet had stopped to spend the night after a business trip. As a thank you Aunt Gayle made me some beautiful pillow cases. They are really showing their wear, I do and will continue to cherish those memories. I know she is with our Lord and Savior, so we will meet again. Save me a seat on the bench so we can catch up. I love you deeply Aunt Gayle💕



Dianne Foley - March 17 at 12:13 PM



“ Skeet, Jessica and family please accept my condolences. Not sure you knew Aunt Gayle was my favorite. Although those beautiful pillow cases are showing their weara

Dianne Foley - March 17 at 11:58 AM