



Gay Paula Robbins

January 3, 2026

Gay Paula Robbins, 72, of Columbia, entered eternal rest on Saturday, January 3, 2026, at Penn State Health Lancaster Medical Center. She was born in Philadelphia and was the daughter of the late Guy and Pauline E. (Steffy) Kleckner. She was the loving wife of her soulmate, Warren Robbins.

She was a certified Surgical Operating Room Technician after taking the required courses and passing the required Board exams. She loved her career, but not as much as she loved Warren. Gay retired from her work after Warren became ill, and due to her medical background, she became the best caregiver any husband could ask for during that difficult time of need.

Gay was a devoted cat lover who would volunteer her time at the Pet Pantry of Lancaster County whenever she was available. She enjoyed puzzles, gardening, playing Scrabble with her mom, and Yahtzee with her grandsons. Her greatest love was her family. She loved to write, and she and her grandsons would exchange letters frequently, sharing their everyday life happenings.

She is survived by her daughter, Melissa Ertl (Darryl) of NC; grandsons, Lucas (14) and Mason Ertl (11); sisters, Joy Myers of Landisville, Maryjane Cook of FL, and Susan Lei Kleckner of PA; brothers, Guy Kleckner of Conestoga and Frank Kleckner of FL; and many loving nieces and nephews.

Melissa would like to thank everyone who was able to visit Gay in the hospital and sit by her side, or call and talk on the phone. She knows her mom appreciated the time you spent with her.

Please consider donating to a cause that was very dear to Gay's heart, the Pet Pantry of Lancaster County, 26 Millersville Road, Lancaster, PA 17603. There will be a Celebration of Life later in the Spring. Please continue to look for the announcement in the paper.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I always appreciated Gay’s help with the cats and the surgery packs.
She was a regular volunteer at HELPING HANDS for ANIMALS for the past 3 years and we all enjoyed her time there.
Rest in peace dear friend.

D Statland - January 09 at 04:51 PM

PA

“ Gay was my first friend when I moved to Conestoga in 5th grade. We remained very close friends and even neighbors during all of our high school years. We babysit the village kids together, spent all our time together as besties do during those young years. I will always remember her with love. To her family - I am so very sorry for your loss. Pam (Martin) Adams

Pam Adams - January 09 at 03:54 PM

JG

“ I worked with your Mom 30+ years ago. She was a DELIGHT and she and Warren were the Best Love Story!! My Sincere Condolences Melissa ❤️

Julie Groff - January 09 at 03:44 PM

SM

“ What a beautiful woman and HARD worker Gay was...we met at Helping Hands for Animals where she volunteered the last 3 years i was there...we went to breakfast and had alot of long talks! She wrote handwritten letters to her 2 Grandson's as much as she could and waited with eagerness for their handwritten response back! Every year she enjoyed Christmas shopping and having me " look up" a gift because she didn't know what it was then she wrapped everything and put it in a big box to mail it to them! Towards the end many of the Helping Hands staff and trappers helped buy her groceries and take her to needed appointments and just sit and talk with her...she had alot of love coming from her Pa. family. Blessings to the family and please know...her Daughter was her world!



Susan MILLER - January 09 at 10:50 AM



“ I Wish The Best For Gays Family 😊😊💜 Gay and I were Best of Friends 😊 I Will Miss Her Always 😊😊💜🐾

Marianne Zangari - January 09 at 10:33 AM