



Linda E. Gutshall

April 26, 2013

“And He will bear you up on eagle’s wings ... and hold you in the palm of His hand.”

Linda E. Gutshall, 67, passed away on Thursday, April 25, 2013, from complications from pneumonia. The daughter of the late Ralph Gutshall and the late Emma Gutshall Graybill, Linda is survived by sisters Karen Hastings (Wolfforth, TX) and Sherril Beaston (Lancaster), as well as her aunt Margaret Smith, three nieces, one nephew, 11 grand-nieces and – nephews, and five great-grand nephews.

She will be sorely missed by those who shared a home with her – her loving friend, Marcia Snyder; her grand-niece, Kiersten Beaston; her grand-nephew, Joseph Margarito; her great-grand nephews, Joseph Margarito, Jr. and Jayden Kimmich; and her very favorite cat, Scamper.

Linda spent her life doing what she did best – loving and giving to people, especially children. She taught first grade at Penn Manor’s Martic Elementary School for many years, cheered on countless young baseball players, opened her home and heart to four generations of her family, and was a cheerful, loving giver to her many friends in her church family.

A funeral service will be held on Tuesday, April 30, at 3:00 at the Highland Presbyterian Church, 500 E. Roseville Rd., Lancaster, with the Rev. Dr. Ann Osborne officiating. Friends may visit at the church starting at 2:00. Memorial contributions may be directed to Highland Presbyterian Church.

Tribute Wall



“ *Linda E. Gutshall*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Linda and I were friends many years ago when we were both young and selling Tupperware. She was working her way through college and very determined to get her degree so she could fulfill her dream of teaching. Can you just imagine what those parties were like? With her sense of humor and love of fun they certainly couldn't be dull. I'm sure her classes were never boring either.*

Even though our friendship had been limited to updating each other about our lives through Christmas cards, I was so glad to maintain a connection.

How do you say goodbye to someone who has touched so many with their love? The answer is you don't because she lives on in different ways through those of us who knew her. My sincere sympathy goes to Marcia and all her family. When telling me about them, I could feel the love she had for each one. A love that will never leave.

She was a good friend that won't be forgotten.

Christine Meckley - May 01, 2013 at 01:27 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies to Marcia and family. Such fond memories. I met Linda in 1986 when my daughter was in her class. Linda was the reason I became involved with Martic's PTO...actually I didn't have a say in the matter. I started out as computer Mom for my daughter's class and somehow ended up vice president of the PTO! That was Linda Gutshall. She encouraged young minds and gave them the confidence to succeed. She and Marcia are what teachers today should aspire to be.*

Sue Ressler - May 01, 2013 at 12:59 PM

EF

“ On behalf of the Stephen Ministers of Highland Presbyterian Church, we'd like to extend our deepest sympathies to Linda's family. Many heartfelt thoughts and prayers go out to all of you. Please take comfort in knowing that others care. May God hold you in His loving arms.

Sincerely,

The Stephen Ministers of Highland Presbyterian Church

Eileen Flick - May 01, 2013 at 11:41 AM

“ We were Ms. Gutshall's first class at Martic Elementary, the class of '90. From the day I walked into her class until the day she died I felt loved by Ms. Gutshall.

As a first grader, she taught me how to embrace being strong without bullying others. She taught me to love learning and to help others, even if she had to remind me to let her be the teacher (:). It was in her class that I made a star for the top of a Christmas tree and covered it in aluminum foil from Mabel in the cafeteria. That star didn't win the contest that year, but she made sure I felt special for having tried, and that star has adorned the top of my parents' tree for the past 35 yrs. It is a constant reminder of Ms. Gutshall's love.

In high school, I received a white rose on opening night of the musical with a note from Ms. Gutshall telling me to 'Break a Leg.' As she sat in the audience, I hope she knew that she had contributed to who I had become.

In college I visited her on breaks. When I graduated, I substituted for her in the same room at the end of the hall that I had walked to as a first grader years before. And when I was preparing to move to Africa to teach in a one-room school house, she gave me a bunch of stuff from her stash to make my own "prize box" for my students. I still recall a C.H.I.P.S. coloring book as part of the booty I was given. Her room was not known for it's tidiness, but I saw treasures where others saw clutter, and a heart overflowing with love the way her desk overflowed.

I sent Ms. Gutshall letters from Africa and every year received a Christmas card from her with the names of everyone living under her roof. I smiled at the list, knowing that no matter how challenging life was for her, she extended her friendship, acceptance, love and support to those who needed her.

The day I got married, Ms. Gutshall & Ms. Snyder sat at the edge of the dance floor and watched as I danced a tearful dance with my father and then a Frank Sinatra song with my new husband. They were in the background of one of my favorite pictures from my wedding day, and it seemed so á propos that she was there smiling. She gave me a nativity set for my wedding that reminds me of her every year when we decorate.

Other than Christmas cards, I hadn't be in touch with her of late and was saddened to see her obituary in the paper. Sad for the obvious reasons--grieving death, feeling empathy for Ms. Snyder losing her best friend--but also sad for the world's loss. Ms. Gutshall made everyone with whom she came in contact feel valuable, treasured, celebrated, and loved.

Ms. Gutshall, if you can see this from your new home, I hope you know what a treasure you have been to many. You will be missed here, and some day (if I can find you amidst the piles in your heavenly home) I will hug you, sit with you over a cup of tea, reminisce over the good old days, and try to put into words how much you have touched my life and the lives of so many. All my love...Jennifer

Jennifer Harris Rajnic - April 30, 2013 at 10:17 AM

CA

“ I am so sorry to hear of Linda's passing. My memories of dear Linda at Martic and afterwards were of someone who had a very large heart for children whether they were her own or someone else's. She would think nothing of stopping what she was doing to help someone else. She and her broad smile will be missed.

Cheryl Aucott - April 29, 2013 at 02:56 PM

DB

“ Always smiling, cheerful and kind. Heaven has received a wonderful new angel. Rest in peace my good friend!

Dan Brown - April 28, 2013 at 04:23 PM

JB

“ It is with sadness that I read about Linda's demise. I have fond memories of professional activities that we did together. She always had a pleasant smile and an upbeat attitude toward education and the children that she served. May her soul rest in peace.

John Berry - April 27, 2013 at 09:53 AM

EM

“ You were such a wonderful teacher to all six of my children. You and your partner in crime ,Miss Snyder. were a great team. Now that I have been teaching in VoTech program for the last 10 years I can really appreciate all the extra time you took to inspire your students. Prayers and thoughts with you Eileen Johnson Miller, mother of Michele Johnson, Matthew Johnson, Gary Miller, Tonya Miller, Kimmy Miller and Amanda Miller.

Eileen Johnson Miller - April 27, 2013 at 06:33 AM