



Joan Gerling

February 5, 1926 - July 22, 2017

Joan Gerling, 91, of Gaylord, MI passed away Saturday, July 22, 2017 at Traverse Manor, in Traverse City, MI.

Joan was born on Friday, February 5, 1926 to Julius and Hazel Zaremba in Detroit, MI. Joan's life was greatly influenced by the Great Depression and World War II. As a young child she and her family, as did so many others, did not have many of the comforts that we take for granted today. It was because of these experiences that Joan earned her education in nursing and had a long career in caring for others.

She met Richard John Gerling Sr. and married him on August 8, 1947. They lived together and raised their family in Mt. Clemens and then retired to their lake home in Gaylord in 1980. They spent most of their time enjoying each others company and for a few years wintered in Florida and the Gulf Coast.

Joan is survived by her three sons Dr. Christopher (Jennifer) Gerling of Traverse City, Terry (Kathy) Gerling of Summerville, SC and Robert (Betsy) Gerling of Mt. Clemens; 13 grand children and 8 great grand children.

She was preceded in death by her parents Julius and Hazel Zaremba; brother Fred Zaremba, and son Richard 'Bud' Gerling.

Per Joan's wishes cremation has taken place. A private memorial service will take place at a later time, yet to be determined.

Comments



“ Dear Chris, I am sorry to learn of your Mom's passing. I worked with her early on in my ER nursing career in 1977. She was a seasoned ER nurse and I was a rookie. I loved her. She treated me as an equal as she taught me "the ropes." She was so very down-to-earth and practical and patients really liked her. I enjoyed working with her, as she was so darn funny! She and Margaret Lowe were "the bosses" of the ER and sometimes we all socialized at celebrations such as baby showers, going away parties and such. I feel like I got to know her as a really genuine person, so smart, witty, and very compassionate. She was so proud of her children and loved to talk about you, Chris. Of course, I got to know you personally, Chris, for myself, as we then worked together so many shifts in the ER during the 80's. So I send you my condolences as you grieve for your loss, yet celebrate the long life of your Mom and all of her accomplishments. I am positive she loved her family fiercely and was a very devoted mother and grandmother.

My own mother, Dolores, 92 years old, died on July 5th, 2017, and so I feel I know what you are going through now. I am so fortunate to have had her for so long in my life, that it will take time to get used to her not being a phone call away. Please know I keep your family in my thoughts and prayers!

Marcy Klucznik

Marcy Klucznik - August 05, 2017 at 11:01 AM



“ Chris, I am very sorry for your loss. Knowing you, your mother must have been a very special woman.

Mark Smith - August 02, 2017 at 09:23 AM