



## Gene L. Klida

July 31, 1955 - October 6, 2019

On October 6, 2019, Gene Logghe Klida, 64, of Grosse Pointe Farms, formally of Shelby Twp., passed away peacefully with family and friends at her side, after suffering a hemorrhagic stroke.

Gene was born in Highland Park, Michigan on July 31, 1955 to Eugene and Anna Logghe. After attending Brablec High School, Gene earned a degree in Speech Pathology from Michigan State University in 1978. During that time Gene began her relationship with her husband, David. Having married in 1981, together, they enjoyed nearly 40 years of loving partnership. They had their first son, Michael, in 1983, and their second son, Patrick, in 1988.

Gene's boundless love for her children, and her passion for their education, sparked a lifelong mission of improving public education for all. Early engagement in her sons' classrooms and extracurricular activities quickly grew into a commitment to advocating for children everywhere.

In 1998, voters elected Gene to serve as a member of Utica Community Schools Board of Education, and they continued to re-elect her for over 20 years until her retirement in 2019. In her service on the Board, Gene held numerous titles, including President, but saw her role as a mentor to others as her most honored achievement. And it was in that light that Gene worked tirelessly to ensure that students of all kinds and needs had every opportunity

to succeed.

Gene's ambitious optimism fueled her involvement with the UCS Foundation for Educational Excellence. There, Gene was a force behind a number of breakthroughs that would raise the profile of the arts in Utica Community Schools and raise money to support teacher initiatives and student scholarship. Her sincere belief in relationship building between schools and communities fostered countless others to join her zealous energy and passionate advocacy.

Gene is survived by her husband Dr. David, sons Michael and Patrick, siblings, Kimberly Dunn, John Logghe, Kim Dehring, and parents Eugene and Sandy. She is preceded in death by her mother, many friends, and relatives. Her compassion and patience are continued on by all who had the good fortune of knowing her.

Gene's family and friends will be celebrating her life on Saturday, October 19, 2019, 11:00am - 2:00pm at the Palazzo Grande, 54660 Van Dyke, Shelby Twp., MI 48315.

Memorial donations to the Gene Klida Memorial Educational Fund, c/o Shelby Township Lions Club Scholarships, PO Box 182075, Shelby Township, MI 48318

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

OCT **19**. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Palazzo Grande Banquet Facility  
54660 Van Dyke Avenue  
Shelby Township, MI 48317

# Tribute Wall

AB

“ *i love you aunt gene i miss you so much i hope your doing ok up there i love you so much i promise to never forget you and i wont ever give up and i will make my dreams come true to make you proud*



---

**Abby** - March 03, 2022 at 12:57 PM

AB

*and its me abby by the way*

---

**Abby** - March 03, 2022 at 12:58 PM

DP

“ *Gene and I worked together at Staff Industries back in the 80's. I found her on FB a few years ago and reconnected. Unfortunately I didn't learn of her passing until now. My heart goes out to David and the boys on your loss. She was always such a nice lady. We shared many laughs back in the day. She was one of the first people I met when I started there and always had great advise. She will be missed.*

---

**Dorothy (Whitmore) Paetzke** - July 31, 2020 at 09:38 AM

GM

“ Mrs. Kilda was such a wonderful lady. We met several times at different school functions and even at the grocery store. Always kind 💜 You will be missed by all. Your dedication and years of service in the UCS are to be commended. You truly made sure all of our children had the proper tools for their education. You were supportive to us parents, patiently listening about our concerns. Your sincerity will always be remembered. A beautiful, caring lady inside and out 💜 May you be at peace 🙏 To your husband, children and family: Please know you are all in our prayers. Our family is so very sorry that she has moved on to her heavenly life. Mrs. Kilda will be remembered as the wonderful lady she was. May the Lord give you peace and faith at this sorrowful time 🙏💜🦋  
The Miller Family



Gail Miller - October 25, 2019 at 07:07 PM

DK

“ Deb Koepke lit a candle in memory of Gene L. Klida



Deb Koepke - October 20, 2019 at 05:54 PM

UA

“ UCS Special Services Administration purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Gene L. Klida.



UCS Special Services Administration - October 19, 2019 at 10:22 AM

LW

“ I just heard of my friend, Gene's, passing. My heart is broken. My first thoughts go directly to her boys, Michael, Patrick, and, of course, David.

*My heart sunk as I read her obituary in disbelief.*

*How can this be? How can my friend, who is so young and smart and vibrant be gone? Gene taught me, inspired me, led me, supported me, made me laugh, and even kindly reprimanded me when I taught her young boys to spray cool whip in their mouths directly from the can.*

*Although we haven't seen each other recently, it was a comfort knowing that Gene's supportive ways were just a message button away.*


*She was one of the most gracious and elegant ladies I've ever met. We're really not so far apart in age, so I'm not sure why we started calling each other Miss Loreen and Miss Gene, but we did. To this day, I still refer to her as such.*

*David, Michael, Patrick, know you are not alone in your tears and sorrow. I pray that you allow the love of your family and friends to envelope you and bring you peace in heart and mind.*

*And, Miss Gene, until we meet again, I will keep you in my memories and heart and speak well of you always. I loved you, my friend.*

---

**Loreen Wilson** - October 19, 2019 at 09:16 AM

 Carol Morrisey

“ So sorry Doc Dave you and family are in prayer

---

**Carol Morrisey** - October 18, 2019 at 06:29 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 18, 2019 at 06:19 PM



“ I am sooo very sorry for your loss David. You'll be in my thoughts & prayers. 💙🙏💙

Love,

Judie Lipiec (Sorrentino)

---

**Judie Marie** - October 18, 2019 at 06:18 PM



“ Love Tammy, Adelia and Anna Reiff purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

**Love Tammy, Adelia and Anna Reiff** - October 18, 2019 at 05:02 PM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 18, 2019 at 04:12 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 17, 2019 at 08:18 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 16, 2019 at 01:27 PM



“ *Dreams From the Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 15, 2019 at 05:03 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 15, 2019 at 04:52 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 15, 2019 at 02:15 PM



“ *What a beautiful person. I enjoyed working with Gene as a principal and appreciated her support. She was always putting the interest of students first. We joked about both being Roseville graduates, having to stick together. Brigitte and I offer our sympathy and prayers to the family on your sudden and tragic loss. Gene will be greatly missed.*

---

**Dave Turrel** - October 15, 2019 at 10:12 AM



“ *Paul and Dana Bartholomew purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Gene L. Klida.*



---

**Paul and Dana Bartholomew** - October 15, 2019 at 09:42 AM

IB

“ Some people come into your life and make such an impact, it can empower you to believe in yourself more and fuel change in every person they touch. This world lost a truly amazing woman too early, Gene Klida was at the top of that list of individuals. My heart aches at the thought of not hearing her laugh, sharing political views, and styling her gorgeous hair any longer. My heart felt condolences go out to her beautiful family and to all that knew her. Thank you Gene for everything you have ever given your attention to, this world is a better place than you left it all due to your tremendous care and spirit. Rest in Peace and watch over us from above.

---

**Izabella Bieniasz** - October 14, 2019 at 08:37 PM

HC

*A job well done.  
Rest, well, Gene.*

*Hildy orbett*

---

**Hildy Corbett** - October 15, 2019 at 01:44 PM

SD

“ Gene and I spent time talking about how blessed we each felt with the joy of having our children. She cherished being a mom. It is heartbreaking to know that her time with her family was cut so short, but I know she put everything she had into the love of her family in the years she was given. All my love to Gene's extraordinary family. May you find peace knowing that her love is never gone.

---

**Susan I D'Arcangelo** - October 14, 2019 at 08:30 PM

SH

“ David and family, so very sorry to hear about your wife and mother. Will keep you all in my prayers. Randy and Shirley Lincoln.  
(Kowalski)

---

**Shirley** - October 14, 2019 at 06:23 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.*



---

October 14, 2019 at 04:56 PM



“ *Klida family,  
You have no idea how saddened I have been about Gene's passing. She was always there for me as a UCS teacher. She always made time for me and helped me with any concern I had. We became friends. Recently, I kept running into her, whether it was Kohls, getting our nails done, or trying to get together to catch up. She was so genuine and sincere. I pray for your strength during this time, as she was called as an angel much too soon.*

---

**Denise R McCarthy** - October 14, 2019 at 12:31 PM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.*



---

October 14, 2019 at 12:29 PM

DT

“ *Donna Hanson and the Plante Moran Team purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Gene L. Klida.*



---

**Donna Hanson and the Plante Moran Team** - October 14, 2019  
at 11:53 AM



“ *Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.*



---

October 14, 2019 at 09:34 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.*



---

October 14, 2019 at 09:31 AM

VE

“ My deepest sympathy to Gene’s family. She was a one of a kind Lady. Whether she only knew you for a few months or during your full career at UCS, she always had time to talk and catch up with you. I’ve told Gene I wanted to be like her when I grow up, she would laugh and tell me to think twice. I will miss this beautiful Lady with such a big heart. It was a blessing for her to be part of my life.

*Till we see each other again my friend  
Vickie Eslinger*

---

**Vickie Eslinger** - October 13, 2019 at 05:50 PM

MN

“ Mike & Kathie Nowicki purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

**Mike & Kathie Nowicki** - October 13, 2019 at 02:41 PM

MV

“ Very, very, sad. Gene was one of the most classy, dedicated, caring, inspirational people I have known. Through the many years I have known her she was a great support to both myself and all the children of Utica Schools. It was always a joy seeing her and sharing warm stories of our growing children. She always had a caring hug to share. My heart aches for her husband and boys, my thoughts and prayers go out to you.

---

**Michelle Verscheure** - October 13, 2019 at 02:06 PM

JS

“ Thank you to Gene Klida, always a strong supporter of education in Utica Community Schools. As a retired junior high school principal, her support of curriculum, students and staff was always felt and appreciated. Her commitment and leadership on the Board of Education was and will be part of her legacy. Sympathy and love to her family.

*Sincerely, Mrs. Joyce A. Spade, EdS*

---

**Joyce Spade** - October 13, 2019 at 11:38 AM



*A special thanks to Mrs. Klida, always a staunch supporter and crusader for public education. I always felt valued and appreciated by Mrs. Klida. She always had a beautiful smile and a warm hug and we would chat about our children. May God bless your family, and keep them in his loving arms during this difficult time.*

*Robyne Thompson*

---

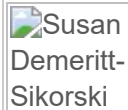
**Robyne Thompson** - October 14, 2019 at 10:40 AM

KM

“ Gene was one of the best student advocates on our board. She was genuine and just the best when it came to any school function. I always begged my principals to get Gene to be the board representative for all of our Avid functions. My life has been blessed having known her, I'll miss crossing paths with her for a hug and fun conversation. May you Rest In Peace Gene

---

**Kelli McCloud** - October 12, 2019 at 08:26 PM



“ I first met Gene as a Crissman parent. I taught her sons in my 3rd grade class and Science Olympiad. She and her husband David were very dedicated parents and both were involved in coaching an event for the Crissman Science Olympiad team. She continued to help out every year with an event at the Regional tournament. Through many conversations and her work on the school board I know that she was always concerned about what was best for UCS students. My wife and I considered her a colleague and a friend and we will miss her. We are keeping David and her family in our prayers. - Mike and Sue Sikorski

---

**Susan Demeritt-Sikorski** - October 12, 2019 at 07:02 PM



“ It was always a pleasure seeing Gene both in and out of Crissman. I was always thankful for her constant support and positivity. Her kindness and gentle heart I will remember the most. I'll always remember when she came in to award me a Foundation grant and was able to meet my son at the same time. I loved that she was able to meet a part of my family as I'd always hear about hers. She was so proud of her family. She was a pivotal part of our UCS Community and Crissman Community. Prayers and hugs to her family. The last time I saw her she expressed how excited she was to have more time to spend with you all this past year. I wish you all peace and hope to heal from this loss.

---

**Courtney Conley** - October 12, 2019 at 06:53 PM

JM

“ I had the good fortune to know Gene both professionally and personally. She always greeted you with a smile, and wanted to know how things were going in the classroom. I was lucky enough to get to know her personally when we became shoreline neighbors up in Harbor Beach. Gene, you will missed. But rest assured, your kindness and devotion to public education will be remembered.

*Fond Memories,  
Joseph Miracola*

---

**Joseph Miracola** - October 12, 2019 at 02:46 PM

RK

“ Kind and Beautiful Lady..... bob k

---

**robert I koskodan** - October 12, 2019 at 02:28 PM

PC

“ A beautiful lady inside and out. I am fortunate to have known this kind, generous and loving lady who has made this world a better place!

*May God be with you and your family...you are all in our prayers.*

*With Love,  
Patti Connors*

---

**Patti Connors** - October 12, 2019 at 12:56 PM

KS

“ Gene's passion for kids was contagious. She was a mentor and dear friend who encouraged everyone to be their best and follow their path. Gene welcomed everyone with open arms. I will miss her immensely and know she will be looking over my shoulder to help guide me.

---

**Kathy Schoonover** - October 12, 2019 at 12:55 PM

BH

“ Dear David, Michael and Patrick,

*Gene was a brilliant light, a loving, joyful person and an inspiration for all who met her.*

*Her tireless efforts to improve education for every student had a huge impact on the students of Utica Community Schools.*

*I will never forget her wonderful smile, great hugs and positive attitude. She will be missed so very very much!*

*Much Love,  
Becky Higbie*

---

**Becky Higbie** - October 12, 2019 at 12:28 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gene L. Klida.



---

October 12, 2019 at 12:13 PM