

Colleen Mary Larson, 80
St. Joseph, MN
July 24, 1936 - Oct. 11, 2016



Colleen Mary Larson (nee Gherty), age 80, passed away at her home in St. Joseph on Oct. 11, 2016, after a valiant battle with cancer. Colleen was born on July 24, 1936, in New Richmond, Wis. to Russell and Mae (Dunbar) Gherty. She attended the Dry Run School grades 1-8 and graduated from New Richmond High School in 1954. She earned her three-year RN degree at the College of St. Catherine, Department of Nursing, St. Joseph's Hospital in 1957. On Aug. 29, 1958, Colleen married Barry Larson at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Erin Prairie, Wis. Colleen was dedicated to helping other people. She was a Room Mother, Cub Scout Leader, Camp Fire Leader and her kids' biggest supporter when they were growing up. She worked as a nurse and finished her career as a nursing consultant to nursing homes. She enjoyed working with the elderly. She

loved playing cards, reading, traveling to see her children and grandchildren and all the family holidays (especially Christmas).

We will remember her smile, her warmth, her inexhaustible energy, her love for life, family and friends. She worked very hard all her life, up to the very end. She made a difference in the lives of many and will always be in our hearts. Last but not least, Colleen was a diehard Green Bay Packers fan.

"Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of His hand."

Colleen is survived by her children, Cindy (Lee) Piepkorn of Sauk Rapids; Brad (Jules) Larson of Sunnyvale, Calif; and Cathy (John) Ward of Calgary, Alberta; along with her sisters Mary (Sherm) Stroman, Karen Pape, Elaine Grundhauser and her brother Jack (Anne) Gherty; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren as well as many nieces, nephews and cherished friends. She was preceded in death by her husband, Barry Larson; her parents; father-in-law Paul Larson; brother-in-law John Pape; and daughter-in-law Monique Larson.

A mass of Christian Burial was held at 11 a.m. on Oct. 15, 2016, at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Erin Prairie, 1880 County Road G, New Richmond, Wis. Visitation will be held for one hour prior to Mass at the church.

A special thank you to the staff of the Coborn Cancer Center and CentraCare Hospice for their wonderful care of Colleen.