



Gwen B. Drews

November 14, 2009

Gwen Beth Drews, 57, passed away Saturday, November 14, 2009. Gwen was born in Wichita, KS the daughter of Paul C. McDermed and Mary M. Hurst McDermed. She graduated from Washburn University in 1992 with her Associates Degree in Drug & Alcohol Counseling, in 1995 she received her Bachelors degree in Social Work and in 1997 graduating Summa Cum Laude with her Masters degree in Social Work. Gwen lived in Germany for 17 years and during that time she was married and divorced twice. Her most happiest and meaningful times were during her 7 ½ years at Valeo Recovery Center as a Drug & Alcohol Social Worker. She loved her job! Gwen was a devoted mother, who was deeply spiritual and believed strongly in the 12 step principles. She is survived by her parents; and her children, Michaela Schmar (Tom), Melanie Didio (Pete), Miriam Drews, Mike Drews (Becky); sister, Judith Coogan; grandchildren, Brian Christian, Sarah Appenfeller, Lauren Christian, Allie Didio, Brady Didio, and Kaylee Drews; great grandchild, Aida Appenfeller. Gwen was cremated. Visitation will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd., Topeka, KS 66614 where the memorial service will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. that evening. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be sent to Valeo Recovery Center and/ or the Cat Association of Topeka sent in care of the funeral home.

Tribute Wall



“ *Gwen B. Drews*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *I wish to send a belated condolences to Mrs. Drews' family. While I did not have the opportunity to know Mrs. Drews, the staff at VALEO all talked in glowing terms about her many contributions to the success of this organization. Over time we all tend to view the collective body of work that one has demonstrated, in order to know the full measure of that person's impact upon upon others. Let me assure the family that Gwen's impact, both past and currently, is still being positively felt. My prayers are with your family.*

Sincerely,

Mr. Preston R. Williams LMSW

Past Chair - VALEO BHC - 2009

Preston R. Williams - December 31, 2009 at 03:27 PM



“ *Mariam and Mike, I am so sorry and sadden to her about your mom's passing. She was a great lady and it was my pleasure to have known her.*

Hope Burns-Carter - December 08, 2009 at 01:31 PM

BC

“ I never got a chance to know Gwen Drews, however I know of her through her daughter Miriam and my dear friend Cary. I heard a quote once, "A mother always has to think twice, once for herself and once for her child." However, with Gwen she only had to think once because her first thought was always for others. My prayers and condolences go out to the family, especially to Miriam. God bless and best wishes. Love.

Bill Cox - November 18, 2009 at 09:30 PM

SM

“ I will never forget Gwen's smile. She had such a wonderful way of living life. She is a kindred soul who has touched so many people. I will never forget her. My thoughts and prayers are with the family. Have peace knowing that Gwen is no longer in pain. God has taken a wonderful angel to heaven.

Shawna Mercer - November 18, 2009 at 05:31 PM

GS

“ Thoughts of Sympathy and comfort go out to all of Gwen's family in this difficult time. May she be at peace finally from her long illness.

Georgeanna South - November 17, 2009 at 03:01 PM

KS

“ I will always remember Gwen's spontaneous smile and sense of humor. Just thinking of her now brightens my day. I pray that her family feel the comfort of the loving thoughts Gwens friend's are sending your way.

Karen Sexton - November 17, 2009 at 09:48 AM

JG

“ Mike-
I am sorry to hear about the passing of your Mom, my thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Julie Gould - November 16, 2009 at 04:39 PM

CB

“ Mary, Paul, Miriam, Mike, Becky and Kaylee: *My thoughts are of all of you every minute of the day. It was such a hard time for all of you the last few days. Gwen was loved and supported so dearly by all of you during that time. May you all have the love and support you gave to her. She loved you all so deeply. My most sincere thoughts of peace to all of you. Cathy*

Cathy Baer - November 16, 2009 at 11:03 AM

PA

“ *I am so sorry for your loss, Mariam, Mike, Mary and Paul. My prayers are with you and your family. Gwen was a good person, and I know today we have a Guardian Angel in heaven.*

Paula Adame - November 16, 2009 at 10:55 AM

JL

“ *Michaela, Melaine, Miriam and Mike I am truly sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. May God put His arms around you and comfort your hearts. Julie*

Julie Leathers-Hrenchir - November 16, 2009 at 10:39 AM