



## Sally J. (Seward) Kranz

February 17, 1951 - November 1, 2024

Sally Jennifer (Seward) Kranz of Manitou Beach, Michigan went to join the Lord on November 1, 2024, at the age of 73. A devoted wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and friend, she will be dearly missed by all who knew her.

Sally was born and raised in Toledo, Ohio. She attended DeVilbiss High School, and in her senior year was Editor of the 1969 Pot O'Gold yearbook, which won national awards. After graduation, she attended The University of Toledo to study art, which she continued to pursue throughout her life. She painted beautiful watercolors and took classes at Silvermine in Connecticut. Her favorite subjects were birds, which she loved watching at her backyard feeders. During her time at The University of Toledo, she joined the Kappa Delta sorority, where she made many lifelong friends.

She took her artistic skills into the outdoors and created showstopping gardens everywhere she lived. Her roses were universally regarded as breathtaking and earned her several awards from the Dublin Ohio Garden Club.

She also inherited a love of travel from her mother, who used to take her on road trips of adventure throughout the United States. During her lifetime, she visited forty-six of the fifty states and marveled over the castles of Europe.

Traveling with her family brought her great joy: visiting the National Parks, seeing the Holland Tulips, taking a 50th Anniversary trip to Hawaii, or enjoying all things Disney.

However, her greatest joy came from her family. Married to her best friend and soulmate, Gary Kranz, for over fifty years, together they raised their two daughters, Brittany (Kranz) Gillen and Heather Kranz. She always said her proudest accomplishments came from being a stay-at-home mom to her girls. She volunteered in all the schools as room mother extraordinaire, teaching crafts and cooking. She never forgot a birthday or anniversary for any of her extended family and friends, and she was known for her thoughtful cards and generous gifts. An eternal optimist, she sprinkled love and joy everywhere she went.

She is preceded in death by her parents William and Harryette (Kirchenbauer) Seward and her sisters Susan Spitler and Sandra Stanton. She is survived by her loving husband Gary Kranz, her daughters Heather Kranz and Brittany (Kranz) Gillen, her beloved son-in-law, who she always claimed was just her son, Ryan Gillen, two granddaughters Sarah and Wendy Gillen, sister Sheila Seward, and sisters-in-law Donna (Kranz) Haar and Mary Pat Kranz. She also leaves behind an adoring group of beloved nieces, nephews, and friends whom she called family.

A private family service will be held in Sally's honor in November, but all friends and loved ones are invited to a Celebration of Life on Sunday, December 15, 2024, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. at The Adrian College Boathouse at Devil's Lake (6150 W. U.S. 223, Addison, MI 49220).

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made in Sally's honor to either the Stiff Person Syndrome Research Foundation (SPSRF) or the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA).



# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

DEC **15**. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

The Adrian College Boathouse at Devil's Lake  
6150 W. US 223  
Addison, MI 49220

# Tribute Wall

DZ

“ *Our sincere condolences. May her memory be a blessing. Diane and Hal Zeidman*

**diane Zeidman** - November 20, 2024 at 12:57 PM

KY

“ *Dear Gary and Family. We were so saddened to hear of Sally's passing. I will always remember our happy times together, especially the tea parties at Clara J's Tea Room. Sally had such a sweet disposition, and her generosity was unmatched. She was an example of how we all should live. Blessings and Hugs, Kris & Ray Young*

**Kris Young** - November 16, 2024 at 11:17 AM

PA

“ *To Gary and family: I am so sorry for your loss.*

**Philip Adams** - November 10, 2024 at 11:21 AM

CU

“ *Gary and family,  
Bob and I are so sorry for the loss of your lovely wife Sally. Rest in peace  
The Urfer's*

**Chris and Bob Urfer** - November 08, 2024 at 08:21 AM

TM

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Tony Mills** - November 08, 2024 at 04:20 AM

TM

*A beautiful spark of light has gone out of our world. Jane & Tony Mills.*

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**Tony Mills** - November 08, 2024 at 09:22 AM

LB

“ Gary and family we are so sorry about the loss of Sally. Sally was always bright and cheery as a sorority sister . We knew how much she will be missed by all. Lou and Bernadette Barth

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**Lou and Bernadette Barth** - November 07, 2024 at 07:30 PM

AS

“ Aunt Sally was the brightest kindest soul. I loved all the get togethers she organized, playing board games and the trips I had the honor of taking with her, Uncle Gary and my cousins. This picture reminds me of the visits to the zoo every year. She will be greatly missed!



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**Angie Safford** - November 07, 2024 at 05:48 PM