



Sara E. Gartin

August 24, 1941 - October 16, 2017

Sara E. Gartin, 76, of Bluffton passed away Monday morning, October 16, 2017, at River Terrace Estates in Bluffton.

Sara was born on August 24, 1941 in Bedford, Indiana to Frank O. & Martha Louise (Austin) Sanders. She was a 1959 graduate of Carmel High School and earned her B.S. in Bacterial Microbiology from Indiana University in Bloomington. She was also a member of the Alpha Xi Delta at IU. Sara completed her Masters of Library Sciences from the University of Maryland. She worked as the Army Base Librarian at Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri, before moving to Bluffton in 1990 to work at the Wells County Public Library. Sara retired in 2007 as the Co-Director and Systems Director of the Library. She was a member of First United Methodist Church and was active in United Methodist Women. She was also a faithful member of the Kiwanis Club of Greater Bluffton.

While she was always a Hoosier in her heart, not long after graduating from Indiana University she began traveling the world and living in such places as Japan, Thailand, and Turkey before returning to the US and settling once again in Indiana.

A lover of the arts with a thirst for information she studied Ikebana, the Japanese art of Flowering arranging while living in Japan and was one of the first foreigners to be designated a master of Ikebana. She continued this love of flowers through-out the rest of her life, often showing her designs at the

Bluffton Street Fair another of her favorite things.

Sara is survived by three sons: John (Barbara) Gartin of Flagstaff, AZ, Edmund (Kelly) Gartin of Barrington, RI, and Andrew (Kelly) Gartin of Montpelier, IN, along with 3 grandchildren: Leah, Keith & Lilly Gartin, along with a sister Kathryn "Kitty" (Bob) Myers of Lapel, IN.

A service to celebrate Sara's life will be at 10:30 A.M. on Thursday (October 19, 2017) at the First United Methodist Church. Rev. Steve Bard will officiate. Friends are invited to visit with the family from 4 to 8 P.M. on Wednesday at the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Burial will take place at the Carmel Cemetery in Carmel, Indiana. Memorials may be made to the Wells County Public Library.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home in Bluffton. Friends can send online condolences to the family at www.thomarich.com

Cemetery Details

Carmel Cemetery

1000 North Rang Line Road
Carmel, IN 46032

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 18. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home
308 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN 46714
<http://www.thomarich.com>

Service

OCT 19. 10:30 AM (ET)

First United Methodist Church
325 West Washington Street
Bluffton, IN

Tribute Wall



“ *Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Sara E. Gartin*



Thoma/Rich, Lemler Funeral Home - October 18, 2017 at 04:50 PM



“ *Sara E. Gartin*

September 08, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Andrew,*

Sorry to hear of Sara's passing, she was an interesting lady and a loving mother. She was always wanting to show me what was the latest thing you was working on.

Blessings,

Shane, past neighbor

Shane - November 26, 2017 at 07:00 PM

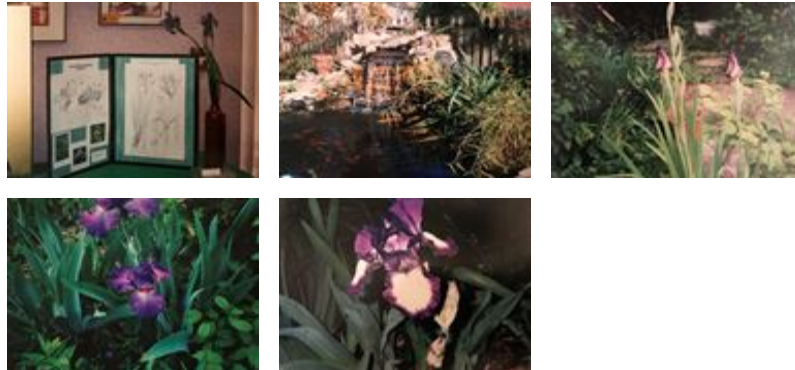
BT

“ To the family of Sara Sanders Gartin,
I went to high school with Sara many years ago. We have not kept up with each other through the years except at an occasional Class of 1959 Carmel High School Reunion. I am grateful that you shared Sara's obituary with Dan Logan which he in turn shared with classmates. I enjoyed reading about the remarkable life she led. I learned so much that I didn't know about Sara. I regret that I never had the opportunity to discuss with her some of the remarkable experiences she had.
Condolences to Sara's family.
Barbara Wilmoth Turner

Barbara Turner - October 27, 2017 at 08:38 PM



“ 68 files added to the album Life Tributes



Thoma/Rich,Lemler Funeral Home - October 17, 2017 at 07:39 PM

PO

“ To the family of Sara Gartin: It was privilege to be pastor to Sara while I was in Bluffton. She was active in our Sunday school class. I also attended Kiwanis with Sara. She was very proud of her family and your accomplishments. She enjoyed spending time with her grandkids. My thoughts and prayers are with you. Pastor Cindy Osgood.

Pastor Cindy Osgood - October 17, 2017 at 06:40 PM

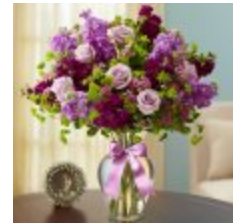
Ed Gartin

Thank you so much we really appreciate you rembering her. I always loved attending services with her at the church they were always enlightening and engaging.
- Ed

Ed Gartin - October 18, 2017 at 08:49 PM



“ Shades of Purple was purchased for the family of Sara E. Gartin.



October 16, 2017 at 09:35 PM

BT

“ Thanks to spending time in Japan with Sara as my personal tour guide; I now have a lifelong love of Japanese art.



Betsy Taylor - October 16, 2017 at 08:19 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Betsy Taylor - October 16, 2017 at 07:20 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Betsy Taylor - October 16, 2017 at 07:15 PM

BT

“ 1 file added to the album *New Album Name*



Betsy Taylor - October 16, 2017 at 07:12 PM

BT

“ *Betsy Taylor lit a candle in memory of Sara E. Gartin*



Betsy Taylor - October 16, 2017 at 06:41 PM