



Marilyn Jean Gagen

August 3, 1944 - November 17, 2022

Marilyn Jean Gagen, 78, of The Villages, Florida, died Thursday November 17, 2022. Born on August 3, 1944, in Cleveland, Ohio, Marilyn was a beloved daughter of the late Raymond and Margaret (nee Scott) Gagen.

Marilyn was a proud graduate of Magnificat High School in Rocky River, Ohio, class of 1961. After high school, she enjoyed many forms of work; she was a social worker for Cuyahoga County, owned a retail clothing store, specializing in infant and maternity items, in Lakewood, Ohio named MJ's Maternity Shop, and also enjoyed a successful career as a travelling, children's apparel manufacturer representative. After finally retiring 15 years ago, Marilyn moved to The Villages, Florida and found a group of friends she considered family.

Many will fondly remember Marilyn as 'the Village Bridge Nut', a talented Bridge player who participated in endless tournaments and taught classes on how to play the game. Another great passion of Marilyn's was volunteering for The Villages Honor Flight, honoring the service and sacrifice of American Veterans by working as a Guardian and Speakers Bureau Administrator.

Survivors include her sister, Bonnie (Raymond, deceased) Villani and brother, Tom Gagen both from Cleveland, Ohio, 6 beloved nieces/nephews plus 12 great nieces/nephews and many friends. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her younger brother Jack (Marilyn) Gagen. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Marilyn's name to The Villages Honor Flight.

Tribute Wall

JR

“ It is sad to hear of the loss of Marilyn she has been a good friend and we have known her since first grade she One of life’s little pleasures Knowing her. she would always surprise us by bringing homemade Irish soda bread to our home She was always available to drive us to the airport no matter what time we had to leave . You will be missed and always love Jim and Sherry Ross

Jim&Sherry Ross - November 27, 2022 at 10:38 PM

SM

“ I’ve been a friend of Marilyn’s for about 50 years - playing bridge and meeting for lunch - we stayed in contact after she moved south playing Words with Friends and via emails.....I was totally shocked to hear of her passing and so very sadshe so loved living in The Villages, teaching and playing bridge and, especially, the Honor Flights.....sincere condolences to her familySue McGuire

Susan McGuire - November 27, 2022 at 10:00 PM

FK

“ I worked at M.J.'s maternity and infant wear, with Marilyn as my boss. She was always helping customers find what looked good on them, and giving discounts to those who needed them. A great boss and a treasured friend.

Fran Kelley - November 26, 2022 at 04:43 PM

EL

“ Marilyn and I have been friends since grade school and have remained friends 60 some years. Her heart was always helping others such a gift she had.

Eileen Loftus - November 26, 2022 at 04:21 PM

JC

“ Marilyn was such a pleasant person always giving and taking care of others. She loved the veterans and especially the WWII veterans. I met Marilyn thru Honor Flight and will miss her very much!

joyce Cover - November 25, 2022 at 10:28 AM

LF

“ I met Marilyn thru Villages Honor Flight. She was a beautiful person and will certainly missed by all. Louise Fahey

Louise Fahey - November 25, 2022 at 08:31 AM

JW

“ All of us in the Villages will miss Marilyn every day. She taught hundreds how to play bridge and worked with us daily. We always had fun under her leadership. We truly loved her and appreciated her ability to teach us.

Some of us were fortunate to spend bridge weekends with her. She always planned the weekend, drove the car, planned the meals, cooked the majority of the meals and played many hours of bridge with us. She was always teaching.

We loved every minute of the time with her. She made us all feel that we were special. She made all of the time with her fun. We are better people and better bridge players because she cared enough to help us.

I offer condolences to her family.

Jean Ann Walker

Jean Ann Walker - November 24, 2022 at 09:06 PM