



## Gerry Haney Harber

October 7, 1933 - June 12, 2023

Gerry Haney Harber, 89, peacefully passed on Monday, June 12, 2023. She and her husband Richard recently moved to Guntersville from Southern California to be close to family. Gerry spent her career as a Los Angeles City School Teacher. Prior to retirement, she spent the last few years directing large-scale Broadway-style musical productions at a highly sought after magnet school. Music, art, children and kittens were her passion. And oh yes, being with her husband Richard was what made her the happiest. They traveled all across the world, one of Gerry's favorite places being Japan, which they visited twice. She is survived by her husband, sister and a large number of step-children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

JUN **19**. 10:30 AM (CT)

Carr Funeral Home  
1960 O'Brig Avenue  
Guntersville, AL 35976  
(256) 582-3411

# Tribute Wall

AH

“ We had a lovely Celebration of Life today, here are some pictures from the day



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**Andy Harber** - June 19, 2023 at 08:32 PM

“G-o, as we dearly called our aunt Gerry, was a beautiful person inside and out. As a young girl I remember staying in their Redondo Beach home. G-o had her own bathroom! It was lit by sunlight coming in the window, adorned with mirrors so she could put on her makeup. I remember it a beautiful room and I was amazed that she had it all to herself - a funny memory. I always admired how "put together" she was. She was always dressed well, wore makeup (but not too much), and a hint of jewelry. She was beautiful. Visiting their Palm Springs home was a delight. It reflected their artistry and love for each other as they designed and built it together.

Another memory clearly etched (not sure why) is when I was younger, maybe 6 or 7, before she married or was even dating Dick. I stayed with her in her small apartment with her two Siamese cats. I was afraid of the cats as they would guard the entry into the kitchen or the bedroom, swatting at me if I tried to pass. G-o loved her cats, perhaps because a cat is much like her - quiet, peaceful, sleek & soft, independent, yet fierce when need be.

G-o and Dick visited us several times in Vermont. I remember one time, early fall, when Kerry was maybe two and Blake five, G-o took endless pictures of them outside. They enjoyed staying at the Four Columns Inn and I remember joining them for breakfast one morning and taking a walk with G-o talking about deep emotional issues. She was such a good listener, not judgemental, compassionate and wise. It was G-o who helped me come to terms with 'should I marry Tristram?', helping me process what really mattered and what didn't. I might not be where I am today or have had such an incredible life with my husband if it hadn't been for her support. G-o was everything an Aunt should be. I regret not spending more time with her learning art. Perhaps that's a lesson I can take from her forward, to reach out, not wait, and embrace that creative part of her that is also in me. I love her very much and will greatly miss her beautiful soul.

I do not know if my kids will write, so I will share two short memories they shared with me as they learned of G-o's passing. I hope

*though, that they will expound on these memories as my rendition isn't complete.*

*- Blake said " I remember when she taught me how to play the theme song of Star Wars on the Piano at Gramma's."*

*- Kerry said, "I remember G-o teaching me about the color wheel and how to use salt to make clouds with watercolor paints."*

*G-o was an artist - a lover of art and music. It's our job now to carry these passions on for her.*



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**Wendy Faner Johnson** - June 19, 2023 at 09:38 AM

CB

“ I remember...

*G-o bringing her "music teacher" recorders and autoharps for us to play; how dedicated she was to help her students love music*

*her Siamese cat Scratch, who slept nestled under her chin and who used the "people" toilet*

*G-o with her camera filming Doug on a backyard zip line (Doug flew through the air toward her as Tim yelled, "G-O move!!" a bit too late)*

*childhood sleepovers that made me feel grown up and special*

*meeting Dick at a dinner in her Culver City apartment (they finally suggested I needed to go to bed after I rested my head on the dining table!)*

*the light gleaming through the stained glass windows of the Westwood Church and the Company of Song singing at their gorgeous wedding*

*G-o attempting to "set me up" with my children's future kindergarten teacher*

*G-o and Dick taking care of little Lauren when I went to the hospital for Brooke's birth*

*her painting soft watercolor scenes*

*her laughing at the antics of her desert quail*

*her listening, never judging, her "How are you, sweetie?"*

*I am grateful for the gift of G-o. I miss her.*

*XOXO Cindy*

**Cindy Borisoff** - June 17, 2023 at 01:17 PM

KH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



**Katherine Harber** - June 16, 2023 at 05:32 PM

KH

*Gerry began painting with water colors in earnest after she retired from teaching. This painting hung above her desk. She painted it from a photo of her mother. (The tilt of the head and the smile have always reminded me of her niece, Cindy).*

**Katherine Harber** - June 16, 2023 at 09:36 PM

CR

“ *Charlene R. purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Gerry Haney Harber.*



**Charlene R.** - June 16, 2023 at 01:12 PM

CR

“ *Charlene R. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerry Haney Harber.*

**Charlene R.** - June 16, 2023 at 01:12 PM

NF

“ Nancy and Doug Faner purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Gerry Haney Harber.



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Nancy and Doug Faner - June 15, 2023 at 04:40 PM

NF

“ Nancy and Doug Faner planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Gerry Haney Harber.

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Nancy and Doug Faner - June 15, 2023 at 04:40 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gerry Haney Harber.



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June 15, 2023 at 04:40 PM

NF

“ *When I was a child the one thing I wanted above all else was a baby sister!!*  
*When I was six years old my wish finally came true! My mother had my baby sister.*  
*I woke up in the morning to find my mother gone – she had gone to the hospital while I was asleep!*  
*My father took me to my aunt’s house to stay while my mother was in the hospital.*  
*I could hardly wait to see my baby sister – no doubt it would not be a brother!*  
*She was tiny – a bit premature so she stayed in the hospital after my mother came home.*  
*Needless to say I was on needles and pins to see her!*  
*My wish had been granted – I had a baby sister!*  
*I’m sorry she is gone – I will miss her dearly*



Nancy Faner - June 15, 2023 at 03:50 PM

NF

“ *3 files added to the album For six years I wanted a baby sister.*



Nancy Faner - June 15, 2023 at 03:43 PM

CM

“ 4 files added to the album *Pictures from all around*



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**Charlene Morgan** - June 15, 2023 at 03:43 PM

“ From Charlene Reed Morgan

*What can I say of my oldest friend of seventy-seven years? We became acquainted when we were thirteen years old and singing together in the Emerson Junior High School girls glee club. But our history predates that in that our fathers played baseball together when they were boys. There were four Haney boys and two of them were Ralph (Gerry's father) and Fred (famous baseball manager).*

*Over the many years, I would be with my friend on happy and challenging times. I remember her coming to sit with me in the hospital waiting room when my husband was having surgery. On another occasion, when I had major surgery, it was Gerry who came to the house with beautiful food and her loving comfort.*

*I must speak of her artistry, musical, photographic, and painting. She had complete artistic gifts, and the means of expression. She brought these gifts to her teaching. She was director of the Childrens' Choir at Westwood Methodist Church for several years. Her love for children was a very special part of her personality. She was very fond of cats, and examples of her paintings of my cats will be posted to the photo wall. I wish I could include photos of the two of us taken over the years, but we were not raised in the age of selfies. Our birthdays were six days apart, and I loved to kid her by sending birthday cards which implied that she was so much older than me.*

*To paraphrase an expression of our friendship which she once stated: What we have is so special that there are not words to share it.*

*I will miss and love my precious friend and treasure our very special friendship. I know that she knows how much I love her.*





Charlene Morgan - June 15, 2023 at 03:40 PM

AH

“ 27 files added to the album *Pictures from all around*



Andy Harber - June 15, 2023 at 02:16 PM

EG

“ *Gerry became my step mom in 1969. I am so grateful for her teaching me and loving me so much.  
She taught me how to scrub properly a bathroom.  
Life is not a dress rehearsal.  
Actions have consequences.  
It's just these... ( these ones, redundant).  
Washing copper bottom pots and Waterford Crystal, Zorba pattern.  
A place for everything and everything in its place.  
Gerry always showed me what was proper. She had a lot of class.  
She was always straight and to the point with me and I appreciate that more now than ever. Back in the day I don't think I showed a lot of appreciation, thankfully her lessons stuck.  
I love her more than I ever knew, God is lucky to have her in his house.  
Never forget.  
Love, Elizabeth*

Elizabeth Gutierrez - June 15, 2023 at 12:42 PM