



## Gina Smith

February 2, 1935 - May 11, 2021

Gina Smith of Delta Township, a loving wife, mother, grandma, sister and friend, passed away May 11, 2021 in Lansing. Gina was born February 2, 1935 in Republic, West Virginia to the late Mike and Domenica (Treviso) Fama. She graduated from Wayne High School Class of 1952 and went on to complete her undergraduate work and obtain a Master's Degree in Education from Eastern Michigan University. Gina was an Adjunct Professor at Lansing Community College where she was an Educator for many years and also maintained many close friendships with colleagues from the school. She was proud of her Italian heritage and was actively involved and had many friends in the Italian American Club of Lansing. Education, reading and literacy were some of Gina's passions and she encouraged those around her, especially her family, to be lifelong learners.

She is survived by her three daughters, Sherry (Brent) Alberts, Patti Weber and Leah (Rocky) Juarez; grandchildren, Nathan, Amy (Adam), Gina (Connor), Maria, Toni, Dominic with one great grandson on the way and sister, Rose Grisa. Gina was preceded in death by her loving husband, Homer B "Hoppy" in 2017 along with siblings, Nancy Kreigler and Nick Fama.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, May 14, 2021, 10:30 am at St. Gerard Catholic Church. Rite of Committal will follow at Hillside Cemetery, Delta Township, Eaton County, Michigan. Visitation will be Thursday from 5-8:00pm at the Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home, Grand Ledge. Covid protocols requiring masks, social distancing and capacity limitations will be observed at the funeral home and church. Memorial contributions in Gina's name may be given to Capital Area Literacy Coalition, 1028 E. Saginaw Street, Lansing, Michigan 48906 (<https://www.thereadingpeople.org/give-money>).

# Cemetery Details

## Hillside Cemetery

6415 Delta River Drive  
Lansing, MI 48906-8007

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 13.** 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services  
406 N. Bridge Street  
Grand Ledge, MI 48837  
[jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com](mailto:jasonbarclay@holihanatkin.com)  
<https://www.holihanatkin.com>

## Mass of Christian Burial

**MAY 14.** 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Gerard Catholic Church  
4437 W. Willow Highway  
Lansing, MI 48917  
<http://www.stgerard.org>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home & Cremation Services created a Webcast in memory of Gina Smith*



Holihan-Atkin-Barclay Funeral Home - May 13, 2021 at 06:00 PM

RP

“ *I met Gina at Lansing Community College where she was a wonderful teacher, and it was always such a joy to see her smiling face whenever we stopped to chat in the hallway. I facilitate a writing group in Grand Ledge, and we published several books. Gina was always a fan, buying each new book as it came out and giving them to friends and family. I always appreciated her caring about her students and others. I will miss seeing her lovely smile at the Island Art Fair and on campus. Sending all my best wishes and caring thoughts to her family and friends on their loss. The world is a much sadder place without Gina.*

Rosalie Sanara Petrouske - May 19, 2021 at 02:23 PM

SP

“ When I think of Gina I think of her open heart for students and colleagues. She always had students in her heart and wanted to help them achieve more in life and academically.

*I think of her backyard and the joy she took in life and living--and a long table and a glass of wine. I remember Gina organizing events at Dart for students, sitting with students one on one to help them read something they were finding a challenge, sitting in her kitchen chatting with fellow teachers--she believed we should get together just to keep in touch.*

*The world is a sadder and poorer place without her, but it is richer too because of her example, joy and love. I am blessed to have known and worked with her, blessed to have spent time with her.*

*I watched her watch her grandchildren make music with love in her eyes. Listened to her tell stories, show us pictures from her trips to Italy. I am hoping she is at peace and with Hoppy.*

*I am heartened by her smiling face and know her example with students and all of us at LCC will not be forgotten. Sending Love and Light, Sally Pierce*

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**Sally Pierce** - May 17, 2021 at 05:12 PM

SH

“ What a terrific friend and colleague Gina was. Her love of bringing literacy to her students was always evident, as was her deep caring for each individual student. Her infectious enthusiasm, laughter, and smile will be missed. She was also a model for valuing and maintaining friendships. May we continue our friendship circle that she so well nurtured.

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**Susan Henderson** - May 14, 2021 at 08:46 AM

JH

“ Gina and I met at LCC and she was a kindred spirit when it came to loving and teaching students who needed extra skill building. Imaging our surprise when we discovered that my son-in-law grew up across the road from her and had shared so many fun memories about Gina and her family. When Jacob and Julia had their first baby, Gina was almost as happy as I was!! All of a sudden we were not just colleagues, we were family. I will miss her beautiful smile and genuine interest in people!

*Jean Hernandez*

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**Jean Hernandez** - May 14, 2021 at 08:14 AM

SD

“Gina was my mom's (Kay Palmateer Dobek) best friend growing up & through the years their friendship still flourished. We lost my mom in 2009 and Gina was always there with her kind words and letters. Gina was a wonderful person and will be missed. Prayers to the family. The Dobek Family

Sue Dobek - May 14, 2021 at 12:31 AM



“We are keeping your family in our prayers during this difficult time. Please know that Gina Smith, was loved and appreciated by everyone she touched. Grace and peace be with you.

Rev. Jeffery A Lang  
Adjunct Professor, LCC

Jeffery Lang - May 13, 2021 at 07:14 PM

AC

“I have been fortunate to work with Gina and appreciated her cheerful and warm disposition. Her students were always her focus. She will be missed.



Aleksandra Carpio - May 13, 2021 at 03:07 PM

BN

“My Dear Family,

*It is with great sadness that we hear of the passing of this fine woman. With all the loving and caring things Gina has done in life, the most notable is the legacy she leaves behind in all of you. Please know we are with you in spirit and will be praying for you all during this difficult time and beyond. God bless!!!*

*Love, Keith and Kay Nicosia”*

Brian K Nicosia - May 13, 2021 at 01:23 PM

MM

“ Gina was a classmate at Wayne High School, Class of 1952. Gina was a focal point for planning the many class reunions we held over the years. Gina even organized a few of us to get together for lunch at her nephew's restaurant in Farmington a few years ago. A small group of us have kept in touch through email and are planning a lunch at the end of the summer. Now it will be in honor of Gina and we will have a great time remembering our wonderful friend from all of these years. Love you Gina. Marilyn McKinney

Marilyn McKinney - May 13, 2021 at 01:18 PM

FF

“ Frank, Steve, Cathy and Anne (and families) purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Gina Smith.



Frank, Steve, Cathy and Anne (and families) - May 13, 2021 at 09:03 AM

FM

“ Mandanici Bells for Gina — <https://youtu.be/YLxiZPjrFvI>

Familia di Mandanici - May 13, 2021 at 08:27 AM

CS

“ Corinne, Laurence and Marie Schoepp purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Gina Smith.



Corinne, Laurence and Marie Schoepp - May 13, 2021 at 04:44 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.



May 12, 2021 at 11:53 PM

MK

“ Gina was such a wonderful lady, can't believe she is gone. I have fond memories of working with her at LCC. She was loved by students and faculty and always had a sunny attitude. She will sadly be missed. Tears, Mary Kirvan

Mary Kirvan - May 12, 2021 at 10:12 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.



May 12, 2021 at 08:53 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.



May 12, 2021 at 08:45 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.



May 12, 2021 at 08:15 PM



“ Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.



May 12, 2021 at 06:48 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.*



May 12, 2021 at 04:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.*



May 12, 2021 at 04:22 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.*



May 12, 2021 at 04:15 PM

TC

“ *The Riley Kids - Cindy, Jim, Kevin, and Connie purchased the Dreams From the Heart Bouquet for the family of Gina Smith.*



**The Riley Kids - Cindy, Jim, Kevin, and Connie - May 12, 2021 at 04:07 PM**



“ *Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.*



May 12, 2021 at 03:01 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.*



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May 12, 2021 at 02:30 PM



“ *Large Basket Garden was purchased for the family of Gina Smith.*



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May 12, 2021 at 01:37 PM