



## Gwendolyn Jean Rustia

August 29, 2024

Gwendolyn Jean Rustia (Gwen), 83, of Woodbridge, Virginia, passed peacefully on August 29, 2024, surrounded by loved ones. Devoted to helping others, Gwen dedicated over 40 years to her nursing career, retiring with Kaiser Permanente in 2002.

She was a passionate advocate for children, both as a nurse and in the community. Most recently, she devoted much time to the "Back Pack Snack Attack" program at Prince of Peace United Methodist Church in Manassas. Through this program, she tirelessly collected donations, organized food bags, and delivered school supplies, ensuring countless children had food security and the resources they needed to succeed.

Beyond nursing and her commitment to the church, Gwen was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother. She was preceded in death by Tracey Gayle (daughter) and Gary Brosch (first husband). Gwen is survived by William Rustia (husband), Shelley Hetzer (daughter), Ken Hetzer (son-in-law), William JP Rustia (son), Laurie Pappaceno (daughter), Brian Rustia (son), Meghean Rustia (daughter-in-law). Gwen has 11 grandchildren, Meagan, Becky, Christopher, Paul Michael, Michaela, Emily, Conner, Griffin, Morgan, Tommy, and Madigan, along with 4 great grandchildren, Jayla, Julian, Khye, and Axton.

Visiting hours will take place Friday, September 13th at Miller Funeral Home (3200 Golansky Blvd. Woodbridge, VA 22192) from 4 pm to 7 pm. A service at Prince of Peace Church (6299 Token Forest Drive, Manassas, VA 20112) will be held September 14th, at 11am. A same day visitation will precede the service at Prince of Peace starting at 10am. Gwen will be cremated and there will be a private ceremony for the interment of her ashes on the Island of St. Martin, Netherland Antilles at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Gwen's favorite charitable cause, "Back Pack Snack Attack" through her church at <https://popumc.org>, choose Online Giving, Give Here, scroll to Back Pack Snack Attack and click Donate for online giving.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

SEP 13. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Miller Funeral Home & Crematory, Inc.  
3200 Golansky Blvd.  
Woodbridge, VA 22192  
703-878-CARE (2273)  
<https://millerfuneralhome.net/>

## Visitation

SEP 14. 10:00 AM (ET)

Prince of Peace United Methodist Church  
6299 Token Forest Drive  
Manassas, VA 20112

## Service

SEP 14. 11:00 AM (ET)

Prince of Peace United Methodist Church  
6299 Token Forest Drive  
Manassas, VA 20112

# Tribute Wall

DW

“ SHE COMFORTED ME WHEN BRIAN DIED, AND SINCE THEN, SHE WAS ONE MY BEST FRIENDS.WE ALWAYS INCLUDED EACH OTHER IN ALL EVENTS WITH OUR FRIENDS. WILL MADE HER HAPPY AND I ENJOYED BEING WITH THEM IN MANY ACTIVITIES.

DAVE WHITTAKER - September 12, 2024 at 01:36 PM



“ Dearest Uncle Will and family, We were all so sad to hear of Aunt Gwen's passing. She fought like a champ through all her struggles. We will all always remember her smile, her joy and her love. Sending love and all our prayers for you and the whole family. May her memory be always blessed. Love, The Piersonian Institute

Mary N Surkein - September 11, 2024 at 09:51 AM

AP

“ Gwen as we call her at POP cared so much about children who are hungry, that she got us involved with Backpack Snack Attack (BPSA) at POP. I remember her requesting contributions to support this cause. We started making financial contributions from time to time. We became friends and she would look for me on Sundays to give her my special hug and we would talk about family. I will miss her dearly.

*I would like to express our sincere condolences to the entire family. May Gwen's soul rest in Perfect Peace with light perpetual shining on her.*

*Arthur and Sylvia Porter  
Prince of Peace UMC*

Arthur Adekunle Porter - September 04, 2024 at 04:27 PM

MR

“ Much love to you, Uncle Will, and the Rustia crew. Auntie Gwen was a wonderful addition to our family and she will be missed. Including some pics from your adventures together overseas with my parents.



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**Megan Robertson** - September 04, 2024 at 10:50 AM



“ We traveled with Will and Gwen. Gwen slept through most of our morning adventures and was pegged Gwendolyn Jean, the sleeping machine. Gwen will be sorely missed. Judy & George Robertson

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**Judy Robertson** - September 03, 2024 at 01:08 PM