



Gretchen Patricia Mager

May 1, 1974 - January 19, 2026

IN MEMORY OF:

Gretchen Patricia Mager

Serving Location:

CRAIN PLEASANT GROVE-MURDALE FUNERAL HOME

31 Memorial Drive, Murphysboro, Illinois

Gretchen Patricia Mager, age 51, of Collinsville, Illinois, passed away on Monday, January 19, 2026, at Anderson Hospital in Maryville, Illinois, due to a cardiovascular condition.

She was born on May 1, 1974, to Brian and Gloria (Cerrato) Mager in Tegucigalpa, Honduras.

Gretchen graduated from Carbondale High School and earned her degree in Finance from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale.

Gretchen lived a life defined by kindness, generosity, and love. As a proud Cubs fan, she understood patience, loyalty, and hope in a way that felt uniquely her. She had a deep affection for animals, and anyone who

witnessed the tenderness with which she cared for her pets saw the true depth of her compassion. She loved traveling with family, attending concerts, and embracing every opportunity to enjoy life.

She moved through the world at her own gentle pace, reminding those around her that life isn't a race and that slowing down can be its own kind of wisdom. Gretchen gave freely and without expectation, offering kindness simply because it was who she was.

She was a cherished friend whose support never wavered, a cousin whose warmth and humor brightened every family gathering, an aunt who would move mountains for the people she loved, and a daughter and sister who was treasured more than she ever knew.

Gretchen worked as a Financial Broker at Wells Fargo for 17 years and had recently begun an exciting new chapter with & Partners Wealth Management. She was many things to many people and Gretchen leaves behind a legacy of generosity, humor, hard work and love. She showed us how to live with open hearts, how to root for the underdog and how to turn everyday moments into cherished memories.

Along with her mother, survivors include her sister, Heather (Aaron) Moore; nephew, Riley Moore; niece, Emma Moore; aunts and uncles, Carlos D. (Isabel) Cerrato, Leny (Miguel) Cerrato, Sara (Bruce) Fleming, Carlos A. Cerrato, Carlos D. (Claudia) Cerrato, Carlos J. (Yelitza) Cerrato, Carlos R. (Coral Diane) Cerrato; and Lance (Linda) Mager; grandmother, Christina Cerrato; twenty cousins; and countless people fortunate enough to call her a friend.

She is preceded in death by her father, Brian Mager; grandfathers, Carlos A. Cerrato and Norman Mager; grandmother, Audrey Mager; and her uncle,

Scott (Blanca) Mager.

A Memorial Service will be held on Friday, January 30, 2026 at 12:00 PM with Rocio Williams officiating at Crain Pleasant Grove – Murdale Funeral home. Visitation will be held prior to the service from 10:00 AM until 12:00 PM at the funeral home.

Inurnment will follow the service at Murdale Gardens of Memory.

The family requests with gratitude that memorial contributions be made to St. Francis CARE in Murphysboro.

The Cremation of Gretchen Patricia Mager will be personally handled by the staff of Crain Funeral Home.

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Cemetery Details

Murdale Gardens of Memory

137 Murdale Gardens Rd
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-1145
crain@crainsonline.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN 30. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM (cst)

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home - Old 13
31 Memorial Dr.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-2500
crain@crainsonline.com

Memorial Service

JAN 30. 12:00 PM - 12:30 PM (cst)

Crain Pleasant Grove-Murdale Funeral Home - Old 13
31 Memorial Dr.
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-2500
crain@crainsonline.com

Inurnment

JAN 30. 12:45 PM - 1:15 PM (cst)

Murdale Gardens of Memory
137 Murdale Gardens Rd
Murphysboro, IL 62966
(618) 687-1145
crain@crainsonline.com

Tribute Wall

MJ

“ *Mary Jane lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Mager*



Mary Jane - January 30 at 02:42 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.*



January 29 at 04:19 PM

LA

“ *To the family and friends of our sweet Gretchen,
I remember her gentle smile every time I would see her in the hallways of CCHS. It was usually after lunch when we were almost shoulder-to-shoulder in walking to our classes that we were actually able to say , “hey 😊” to one another. Gretchen will truly be missed and I’m sending a heart full of sunshine your way with my deepest sympathies.*



Be Well and Be Loved 🍷🌻🍷

LAURIE - January 28 at 07:02 AM

LB

“ I was lucky enough to have crossed paths with Gretchen for a short period of time at &Partners. We both shared a sarcastic sense of humor and a love of our different baseball teams. Rest easy Gretchen. My condolences to her family she truly was one if a kind.

Lisa B - January 26 at 07:45 AM

AG

“ Amena Gordon purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.



Amena Gordon - January 24 at 04:40 PM

HJ

“ Sending so much ❤️ to you and your family. I have nothing but fond memories of Gretchen that include tons of laughter and fun. She will be so missed.

Heather Jumps - January 24 at 01:09 AM

KZ

“ Gretchen was one of our student workers at University Bookstore while she was in school. Great worker and one of the calmest people I've known. Was happy to meet up with her at an Alumni event at the valley tournament a few years ago. My thoughts and prayers are with her family and friends.

Karen Zelten - January 23 at 06:57 PM

RC

“ I am so deeply sorry for the family's loss. Sending Prayers for strength and comfort during this difficult time. Gretchen was such a pleasure to work with and she was always willing to help with questions and provide support. I enjoyed working with her and always looked forward to our work chats. She will be missed dearly. 🙏💜

Rebecca C - January 23 at 02:51 PM



“ Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.



January 23 at 12:34 PM

BA

“ Gretchen was a wonderful co-worker and friend. I will miss her dearly and am praying for her family and friends during this difficult time.

Beth Anderson - January 23 at 12:19 PM

HV

“ Her work friends Beth A. and Katie V. purchased the Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.



Her work friends Beth A. and Katie V. - January 23 at 12:16 PM

BD

“ Brooke Dyer purchased the Ocean Breeze Spray for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.



Brooke Dyer - January 23 at 12:01 PM

BA

“ Beth Anderson lit a candle in memory of Gretchen Mager



Beth Anderson - January 23 at 11:58 AM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.



January 23 at 11:03 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.



January 22 at 08:38 PM

LF

“ *Love, Your &Partners Operations Family purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Gretchen Patricia Mager.*



Love, Your &Partners Operations Family - January 22 at 09:54 AM