



## Ruth Gehl

July 2, 1944 - July 31, 2011

Ruth Ann Gehl, 67, of Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin and Brookings, Oregon, put down her quilting needle for the last time on Sunday July 31, 2011 after a year-long battle with cancer. She is now enjoying the infinite patchwork of eternity. Ruth was born in 1944 in West Bend, WI to Ralph and Hildegard Habeck and had one brother, Bernie, who preceded her in death in 2007. She raised her family in West Bend as well. She is survived by her husband, John W. Gehl, her four children and six grandchildren: Mark, wife Amy and son, Will; Kirsten, husband Bud and son Ian and daughter Alyssa; Matt, his partner Julie and daughters Paige and Olivia; Josh, wife Tina and son Justin.

While the pattern of Ruth's life was private and quiet, she enjoyed entertaining and frequently had friends and family over to share meals. She was an avid traveler who visited much of the United States, Europe, Asia, Australia, and New Zealand. She spent 13 winters in Queenstown, New Zealand. The pleasure she found in traveling was matched by her enjoyment of the peace and quiet of the north woods; Ruth has spent much of her summers in Manitowish Waters for the past 45 years. Ruth poured her creative energy into her quilting and won multiple awards for her designs. Many of her quilts were based on her experiences, and most of her quilts were designed for and given to friends and the people in her life whom she loved. The warmth provided by her quilts matches the warmth of the love she showed those close to her. Ruth's love for her friends and family will carry on through her children into her

grandchildren.

Public visitation will be on Thursday August 4, 2011 at 11:00 am at Our Lady Queen of Peace Church, Manitowish Waters, Wisconsin with the funeral to follow at noon. The burial will be in the Pinelawn Cemetery in Manitowish Waters. Memorial contributions may be made to the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation.

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ Dear John and Family ~

*I am so saddened to hear of Ruth's passing. I just have so many memories of your early married years on the corner of Park Ave and Mulberry Dr. in West Bend. I babysat for Mark and Kirsten. I do remember you having twins, but by that time I was off to college. The memory I have of Ruth is that she was a great mom and loved to entertain. I loved babysitting for your children! You also brought me along on a family vacation to your parent's home and that is where I learned to water ski and it was also the very first time I ate lobster! You and Ruth were so good to me and those memories of your fine family will stay with me forever.*

*My deepest sympathy to you and your family ~*

*Sincerely ~*

*Mary (Hausmann) Binkley*

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**Mary (Hausmann) Binkley** - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

BK

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. May the memories of happier days be of some consolation.*

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**Bob & Karen Kuehl** - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

KF

“ John, it has been a long time since we worked together but I remember you sharing photos and talking about some of your vacation trips with Ruth and about your home in New Zealand. you always had a smile on your face when talking about the adventures you and Ruth shared. My sympathy goes out to you and your family.

Ken

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**Kenneth Feucht** - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

DK

“ Ruth Gehl

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**Dennis and Barb Kruepke** - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM

BP

“ Dear John and family,  
We were so sad to learn of Ruth's passing. We have many fond memories of her. We'll always remember our trip to Germany and Italy with you! And who can forget the many wonderful Christmas parties? She was such a good cook and a gracious hostess. Together you made a great team. We also saw the love she had for all of your children and how proud she was as they grew up and had families of their own. Our sincere sympathy to all of you in your loss.  
Bob and Patti

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**Bob and Patti** - March 22, 2013 at 11:53 AM