



## Virginia "Ginny" Sherman

January 19, 1943 - May 9, 2015

Virginia "Ginny" Sherman passed away on Saturday May 9, 2015 at Season's of Life Hospice House, after standing up to ovarian cancer for four years.

Ginny was born on January 19, 1943 to Irma and Willard Van Saun in Janesville, Wisconsin. She attended Janesville Public Schools and graduated from the University of Wisconsin Whitewater with a degree in Education. She was married to Lon Sherman of Milton, Wisconsin. They celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary this past year. She is survived by her husband Lon, a daughter Sheila at home, her son Brian and two granddaughters, Ashley and Audrey all of Austin, Texas. She is also survived by two sisters, Barbara Cuddeback of Leesburg, Fla. and Linda Schmerse of Coal Valley, Ill. and many nephews and nieces.

Ginny taught first grade in the Janesville School District. After moving to Whitewater, she served as the Director of the Whitewater Parks and Recreation Board. This led to Ginny starting and directing a monthly Recreation Night for Walworth County teens and adults with special needs. Also in Whitewater, Ginny started a preschool named Children's Day Out in her home. In a short while she added a partner, Donna Summers. Within a couple months, the need for a much larger space was evident. She and Donna then rented space at St. Pat's Church in Whitewater and they stayed there teaching and loving their students until retirement.

Ginny spent the summers of her youth attending many camps. This developed in her a love for nature and the outdoors which led to spending her retirement

years in Northern Wisconsin. Here she spent her final years enjoying all the activities our forests and lakes are able to offer.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Marshfield Clinic Cancer Research, Attn: Development Office, 1000 N. Oak Avenue, Marshfield, WI 54449-9988.

Upon her wishes cremation has taken place. There will be no formal funeral service. Online condolences may be shared at [www.bolgerfuneral.com](http://www.bolgerfuneral.com).

# Tribute Wall

CS

“ *Carole Zimmerman Shaffer lit a candle in memory of Virginia "Ginny" Sherman*



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**Carole Zimmerman Shaffer** - July 16, 2015 at 11:14 AM

CS

“ *I will always remember "Bug" and all the fun we had when we attended Adams School. I think my love of dancing came about because here parents arranged for us to take ballroom dancing lessons in there basement. We always had fun having the boys over to her house and playing basketball. One time we were babysitting her little sister and got scared out of our wits because we kept hearing this banging noise coming from upstairs. We called her parents to come home right away. Here it was her sister upstairs in the crib banging on the crib. She was always such a nice, caring person. Reconnecting only a few years ago as she was battling cancer, but feeling pretty good in between treatments, was really special for me. She will surely be remembered fondly.*

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**Carole Zimmerman Shaffer** - July 16, 2015 at 11:13 AM

KR

“ *Lon and Family, I am so very sorry for your loss, Ginny was such a kind, wonderful woman. We always enjoyed being around her uplifting spirit.*

*Kara Wilderman Reising Webb  
Birchwood Cove Resort*

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**Kara Wilderman Reising** - June 03, 2015 at 08:29 AM

PK

“ Lon, Brian and Sheila, we are very sorry for your loss. Ginny will keep everyone in heaven happy for sure. She was a great neighbor on Pine Circle and a touched many lives at Children's Day Out.

*The Kempinski Family*

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**Pat Kempinski** - May 26, 2015 at 08:36 PM

MG

“ Lon, Brian and Sheila-  
Deepest sympathy to you in the loss my friend Ginny. We met at Ferry Hall when she was a sophomore. We bonded immediately. She hated it there, I loved it. All she could talk about was getting home to Janesville. She left after our sophomore year but we kept in contact over the years. She was the maid of honor in my wedding. Sheila was born between my first two daughters and I still have the letter she wrote to me telling of the birth. I didn't see her too often over the years, but we were in contact and I missed her. Blessings to all of you.

*Maddie Gieselman*

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**Madeline Gieselman** - May 19, 2015 at 03:41 PM

JB

“ Lon -

*We are very sorry to learn of Ginny's death and offer our sympathy and prayers. She struggled valiantly with your assistance in battling cancer for several years. Ginny was a special person with a big heart and radiant smile. We will always cherish the friendship we had with you and your family, including the visits to your cabin. Our three daughters have many fond memories of those good times.*

*Best wishes to you, Sheila, and Brian. Keep in touch.*

*John and Carolyn Bodensteiner*

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**John Bodensteiner** - May 18, 2015 at 12:11 AM

JS

“ Lon and family-

*Lon, I met you briefly at Ginny's retirement party from Children's Day Out. I, along with a few of the parents at the time, organized the party for Ginny and Donna. My children, Lucas, Taylor and Victoria have very fond memories of their time at Children's Day Out. As an administrator now in education, I realize how developmentally appropriate and progressive Ginny was in her teaching. We recently came across old tapes from the kids' time at the preschool; reciting chants, playing instruments, and singing. We are thinking of you and your family and hope you know how many, many lives Ginny touched and nurtured.*

*Sincerely,  
Jennifer Smithyman and family*

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**Jennifer Smithyman** - May 17, 2015 at 06:19 PM

LS

“ *Linda And Jeff Swenson lit a candle in memory of Virginia "Ginny" Sherman*



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**Linda and Jeff Swenson** - May 16, 2015 at 12:35 AM

SC

“ *Lon and family, sincere condolences for the passing of Ginny, wonderful wife and mother. As your much younger cousin I remember Ginny after you married and were living in Milton. She had such a wonderful presence about her; calm and happy. She always had a smile on her face. Over the years it was fun to hear about her dealings with children in her Nursery School. She had a passion for them and I know she was a blessing to so many. Brian, you don't know me although we met at your Grandma Dorothy's funeral. My mother, Spin FitzRandolph, took care of your father when he was a young boy. I grew up hearing many stories about your dad. I know mom loved Ginny for the place that she had in your dad's heart and for the love that she had for her family. I pray for fond memories to carry you through these days of grief and sorrow.*

*Sue FitzRandolph Cruzan*

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**Sue Cruzan** - May 15, 2015 at 08:15 AM

JA

“ *Ginny's bright smile lite up our world and now lights up the heavens.*

*Janet Alesauska  
Lady Yakker*

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**Janet Alesauskas** - May 14, 2015 at 07:02 PM

SF

“ Lon,

*Cathy and I were so sorry to hear of Ginny's passing, and your profound loss. She was such a blessing to us through her role at "Children's Day out". Along with Donna, Ginny helped us start our 3 kids off in life with a great foundation around sharing, patience, and having a love for learning. She will be missed by many of us whose lives she touched in a most profound way.*

*Steve and Cathy Fernan*

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**Steve Fernan** - May 14, 2015 at 11:30 AM

MT

“ We are so sorry to hear of Ginny's passing. We remember the good times while you were in Whitewater and the kids were growing up.

*Love and prayers*

*The Toennies family*

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**Margaret and Jim Toennies** - May 13, 2015 at 09:48 PM

MT

“ Margaret And Jim Toennies lit a candle in memory of Virginia "Ginny" Sherman



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**Margaret and Jim Toennies** - May 13, 2015 at 09:39 PM

PB

“ Ginny and I became immediate friends when we showed up to kayak one day.  
We both had Obama bumper stickers on our cars.  
It was love at first site for us.  
She was a blessing to me.  
I shall never forget how brave she was in her cancer journey and ultimately her death.  
She will forever live in my heart.

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**penny benson** - May 13, 2015 at 04:38 PM



“ Lon, Sheila and Brian

*I am very sorry to hear of this news and my thoughts and prayers go out to you and family. I have great memories of visits and of course the cabin. I remember her smile the most.*

*Rebecca Bodensteiner Waga*

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**Rebecca Waga** - May 13, 2015 at 07:55 AM

JB

“ Heartfelt condolences from an old across-the-street Columbus Circle neighbor. She was a great person.

*Jay Bradford*

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**Jay Bradford** - May 12, 2015 at 10:26 PM

CD

“ Dear Lon and family,

*So sorry to learn of Virginia's passing. I wish you sympathy and hope that you and your family are well.*

*Craig Duncan*

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**craig duncan** - May 12, 2015 at 06:57 PM

LL

“ Dear Lon, Sheila, Brian, Ashley, and Audrey:

*We have all suffered a great loss with the passing of Ginny. You have lost a sweet and loving wife, mother, and grandmother, and the rest of us have lost a very special friend. Ginny was one of a kind -- full of energy, joy, fun, and a sincere desire to see the world become a better place for everyone. She certainly lived life to the fullest and has left her mark on every group she was ever a part of. We know she did her best to prepare you for life without her, and we know your realization of that and the lifetime of wonderful memories you have will help you get through the sadness. Please remember that many, many people share your grief and join you in celebrating Ginny's life. It was certainly a life well lived. With much love, Lee and Janey Libby*

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**Lee and Janey Libby** - May 12, 2015 at 04:09 PM

PJ

“ Lon and family,

*Please accept my heartfelt and deepest sympathy. Best wishes to you and know that many people care and send you the kindest thoughts.*

*Paul Jones*

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**Paul Jones** - May 12, 2015 at 12:57 PM

BL

“ Words cannot express our deepest condolences on the passing of our special friend, Ginny! She always had a good word for you and delivered it with a smile. Our daily prayer included her during those days of struggle with cancer. We will continue to pray for comfort and healing grace for you and your great family Lon.

*In His name,  
Betty & Tom Larum*

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**Betty & Tom Larum** - May 12, 2015 at 12:39 PM

CD

“ Sending our heartfelt sympathy to Lon, Sheila and Brian. Ginny was such a strong and vibrant person with such a sunny personality. We cherish all the fond memories. Love and prayers to the family. Cecil & Linda Davis

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**Cecil & Linda Davis** - May 12, 2015 at 11:14 AM

JH

“ Remembering Ginny; mourning her passing. The Hubbell Family, Janesville WI

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**Judi Hubbell** - May 12, 2015 at 08:20 AM

EH

“ I met Ginny through AAUW and liked her immediately. She was our Sunshine Lady and the job fit her perfectly as she was always spreading sunshine wherever she went. I loved her smile, kindness, caring, and positive attitude. She will be greatly missed in AAUW. My prayers are with you, Loni, and your family at this difficult time. May God grant you the needed strength in the days that lie ahead. I send my love, Evonne Harr

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**evonne harr** - May 11, 2015 at 05:11 PM

CD

“ We are so glad that we "connected" with Ginny just a few weeks ago. She was such a special, caring and loving person and will be missed by all who knew her. We want to extend our deepest sympathy to Loni and their family.

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**C.Elayne Drenckpohl** - May 11, 2015 at 02:34 PM

RR

“ We send our love, condolences and sympathies to Ginny's family. Ron Robinson and cousin, recently deceased, Karen Van Saun Robinson.

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**Ron Robinson** - May 11, 2015 at 03:41 AM

BF

“ As with many people, I recall the first time I saw and met Ginny - 6th grade at Adams Elementary in Janesville, WI. She was pretty, vivacious, down-to-earth, and interested in everyone she met. She remained so throughout her life. Our lives are diminished by her passing. God Bless and assist Lon and Sheila during their time of grieving and thereafter. Bob and Mary Ann Fish

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**Bob and Mary Ann Fish** - May 10, 2015 at 10:48 PM

CM

Our deepest sympathy in your loss....no more suffering for Ginny.

*Jim and Carol Miller*

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**Carol Miller** - May 14, 2015 at 07:33 AM

LP

*Our sympathy to you and your family on Ginny's passing. She was a very special teacher to our children - very special memories of Children's Day Out with such wonderful teachers! Your loss is a loss to many.*

*John & Linda Peterson  
Lindsay (Wysocki), Sam and Megan*

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**Linda Peterson** - May 14, 2015 at 12:27 PM

KW

*I was sad to learn of the passing of this vibrant woman. My sincere condolences. — Kathy Watson*

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**Kathy Watson** - July 21, 2015 at 12:14 PM