



## Gail Marie Erickson

March 29, 1944 - January 21, 2018

Gail Marie Gabriel Erickson was born March 29, 1944 in Roswell, NM to Carl and Dorothy Gabriel, where Carl was stationed during World War II. After the war, they moved back to Saint Paul, MN to be with their extended families. Her sister Terry and brother Tom were born shortly after the move. In 1951 the family moved to Seattle, WA. S

he graduated from Bishop Blanchet High School in 1962, where she excelled in her classes. She graduated from University of Washington in 1966. Shortly after, she move to the Bahamas where she taught high school students through a volunteer program. After moving back to Seattle , she taught locally and worked at a phone company. In 1973 she was set up on a blind date with Art Erickson. They married November 29, 1974 in Seattle.

They moved to Albany, OR, where Art was living and soon had their daughters Beth and Leah. Gail truly loved motherhood and being with her daughters.

The family moved to Auburn, WA, then settled in Moses Lake, WA in 1982.

When the girls started school, Gail began tutoring and teaching part time for various programs through Big Bend Community College and other social service agencies.

Her true talent and passion was educating non-traditional adult students. She went above and beyond her role as an instructor. She gave love and confidence to all of her students. She was Department Chair for Developmental Studies and was on various other committees and organizations. She was also a long time volunteer for Family Services of

Grant County. After Art's passing in 2002, she established the Art Erickson Memorial Scholarship to further help the students she served.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Carl and Dorothy Gabriel, her nephew, Aaron Hughes and her husband, Art Erickson. Gail passed away surrounded by her family on January 21, 2018. She is survived by her daughters Beth Erickson-McClain (Charles McClain) and Leah Erickson-Yzaguirre (Joseph Yzaguirre), granddaughters Esella Yzaguirre and Adelina Yzaguirre, sister Terry Hughes (John Hughes), brother Tom Gabriel, sister-in-law Ardis Hughes (Larry Hughes), brothers-in-law Bob Erickson (Debbie Erickson), Bill Erickson (Jan Erickson) and her nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be held at the Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church Friday, February 2. Holy Rosary will be prayed at 2:00 pm with a Mass beginning at 2:30 pm. The family invites everyone to gather in the Fatima Center following the Mass.

The scholarship she created in Art's memory, is now the Art and Gail Erickson Memorial Scholarship. Donations to their scholarship can be made in care of Big Bend Community College, the Art and Gail Erickson Memorial Fund, 7662 Chanute St NE, Moses Lake WA 98837, (509) 793-2004.

# Previous Events

## Service

FEB 2. 2:00 PM (PT)

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church (Holy Rosary)  
200 North Dale Road  
Moses Lake, WA

## Service

FEB 2. 2:30 PM (PT)

Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church (Mass of Christian Burial)  
200 N. Dale Rd  
Moses Lake, WA

# Tribute Wall

JL

“ *Jenny Lonas lit a candle in memory of Gail Marie Erickson*



---

**Jenny Lonas** - February 02, 2018 at 02:55 PM

DC

“ *Delores Carvalho lit a candle in memory of Gail Marie Erickson*



---

**Delores Carvalho** - January 30, 2018 at 09:12 PM

WB

“ *Gail was such a dedicated teacher, one of the core BBCC staff who gave life to the belief that we are all there for the students. So many were helped with her caring direction...my condolences to her family...Bill.,*

---

**william bonaudi** - January 29, 2018 at 01:51 PM

RC

*Gail was an extraordinary teacher. She had a way about her that made each of her students feel special and was able to reach each of them in a way that was unique to only that student. She will be missed. I learned more about teaching and working with adult students than I ever did from any college class. My condolences to her family. Heaven has received a new star. Rhonda Corrick*

---

**Rhonda Corrick** - February 02, 2018 at 07:12 PM

PC

“ We were saddened to hear of Gail's passing. My memories go back more than a half century to Minnesota when the many cousins would get together. Gail and my sister Kathy were the oldest women of the clan and all the cousins looked up to them. We didn't talk much in those days about role models but certainly Gail and Kathy were just that - wonderful role models.

*Heartfelt condolences from Minnesota.*

*Paul Ciernia*

---

**Paul Ciernia** - January 29, 2018 at 12:33 PM

DK

“ *Debi Keyzer lit a candle in memory of Gail Marie Erickson*



---

**Debi Keyzer** - January 26, 2018 at 10:40 AM

DK

*I worked with Gail back in the 1980's for many years and she was a great teacher, person and very caring mother for her girls. She always had a smile on her face and when I see her in town or out at the college she would always come up to me and give me a big hug. She will truly be missed by many. May you rest in peace and be with your husband who left way too soon. Debi Keyzer*

---

**Debi Keyzer** - January 26, 2018 at 10:42 AM

HG

*I worked with Gail and Art on swim team for a long time. She was always so willing to share her time and her skills. She will be missed by many. Love to Beth and Leah. Hilda Grant*

---

**Hilda Grant** - January 26, 2018 at 11:35 PM

DB

*Gail taught me so much about being a mother and a wife. I had a great mother, but Gail kind of put a new twist on it for me. She was modern, and so great as my friend. We met on the street, and maybe pushing a baby stroller, possibly both of us pregnant. It was love from there for me. Our husbands were great friends, and our kids the greatest friends. Thank you Gail, Beth, Leah. Miss you all so much. Wanted to come to funeral, but Kris said weather too bad, so he will be there for me. How fun it will be to see Rod, Art, and Gail when it is my time. Thank you God for my special time with all of them. Dianne*

---

**Dianne Brenneman** - January 27, 2018 at 07:29 PM

SP

*I have such great memories of Gail and the Conferences we went on. She was a great Instructor and a wonderful person. My thoughts and prayers are with her family.*

*Suzanne Palmiero*

---

**Suzanne Palmiero** - January 29, 2018 at 04:35 PM

JC

“ *Sending love to everyone! I'll always remember the fun we had while your mom, Leah, was the boss's boss! Gail was an amazing woman and I'm thankful that I was able to know her and eat all the delicious crazy foods she'd make. <3*

---

**Jamie Casteel** - January 25, 2018 at 09:49 AM

GF

“ *Gonzales Family lit a candle in memory of Gail Marie Erickson*



---

**Gonzales family** - January 24, 2018 at 11:43 PM

LB

“ I’m so sorry for your loss Gail was a very special lady so kind and patient a very tender soul your family was blessed with a wonderful mother our thoughts and prayers are with you all Linda and Norm

---

**linda benson** - January 23, 2018 at 11:12 PM

CC

“ Leah, Beth and families, we extend our deepest sympathy for the loss of your mom. Gail was a special colleague of mine for many years. She was gifted with the ability to recognize students needs and to motivate them to achieve their educational goals. I truly admired her professional abilities and we will all truly miss her. May God Bless You all! Chuck and Martha Cox

---


**Chuck and Martha Cox** - January 23, 2018 at 10:17 PM

CD

“ Gail was a special lady in my life. She was a very kind person that was always willing to lend an ear and did anything she could to help. She was also integral in helping me with figuring out the direction that I needed to go in my life and help be the stepping stone to building my confidence to get there. She has always been, will always be, remembered.

---

**Carmon Derting** - January 23, 2018 at 05:11 PM



Terry  
Moore

“ *Our thoughts are with you, Beth, Leah and family.  
Gail was such a wonderful person. I can't even begin to think of  
where my life would be without the encouragement and support she  
gave me to not be afraid to go to college and pursue a new career!  
She was always so caring and compassionate about her students.  
May your memories give you comfort through this difficult time. She  
will be greatly missed and always remembered!*

*Terry Moore & Family*

---

**Terry Moore** - January 23, 2018 at 02:47 PM