



Gayle Ann Mulford

May 3, 1942 - September 14, 2025

Gayle Ann Mulford, 83, of Bonita Springs, FL, passed away peacefully on September 14, 2025, in Naples, FL. Born on May 3, 1942, in Cleveland, OH, she was the beloved daughter of the late Joseph Spisak and Veloria A. (née Milea).

In her youth, Gayle married Richard E. Mulford, Sr., on February 8, 1964 and together they began their family. A devoted stay-at-home mother, she took great joy in raising her two sons. As her boys grew older, Gayle pursued higher education and earned her Bachelor of Science degree in 1984 from The Ohio State University. She then pursued her teaching passion in 1984 as a language arts teacher, first in Lima, OH, at the Liberty Arts Magnet (K-8) and later at Bonita Springs Middle School after moving to Bonita Springs in 1989. She retired in 1999 after a fulfilling career shaping the lives of countless students.

Gayle had a deep love for life's simple pleasures. She treasured walking the beach with her husband and grandchildren, searching for shells and shark teeth. She was an avid fan of crossword puzzles, especially the New York Times crossword, and was known for her sharp wit and determination. In her community at Eagle Pointe Condominium, Gayle became the heart of social life, joyfully organizing events and gatherings for her neighbors.

She is survived by her sons, Richard E. Mulford, Jr. (Julie) of Park City, UT and Robert Mulford (Jennifer) of Palm Harbor, FL; her four cherished grandchildren who lovingly called her "GG," Sam Mulford, Annie Mulford, Chloe Stafford (Isaiah), and Brady Mulford; and a soon-to-be great-grandchild, Isla Stafford, expected January 20, 2026. She is also survived by her three brothers, Joseph Spisak (Sherry) of Cortland, NY, William Spisak (Patti) of Berwyn, IL, and Jeffrey Spisak (Christine) of Safety Harbor, FL.

Gayle was preceded in death by her parents and her devoted husband of 51 years, Richard E. Mulford, Sr. who passed away on April 20, 2015.

Private services will be held by her family.

Memorial donations in her memory may be made to St. Leo the Great Catholic Church 28290 Beaumont Rd., Bonita Springs, FL 34134.

To sign her guest register or leave online condolences, please visit www.ShikanyFuneralHome.com.

Arrangements are in the care of Shikany's Bonita Funeral Home, Family Owned and Operated Since 1978.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ She touched the hearts and minds of children and adolescents during her teaching career. Our condolences to her family and friends. May memories bring you comfort during the hard times and joy when remembering Gayle.

Janet M. Borchers - October 07, 2025 at 12:03 PM

AS

“ Gayle was a bright, shining light. For all she went through, she always had a positive attitude and the most beautiful smile. My inlaws used to have a condo at Eagle Pointe. My family and I vacationed in Bonita Springs for many years, and spent many days by the pool with all the wonderful residents of Eagle Pointe. Including Gayle and her husband, Dick. I remember a girls trip I had with three friends. We were at the pool and Gayle and Dick were there as well. They gave us several places to go to and all were spot-on. This picture is from a side-trip I made in April 2021. Godspeed to you Gayle, as you begin your journey to reunite with Dick. Much love from Minnesota. xoxo



Alice M Sachs - September 18, 2025 at 01:16 PM

AB

“ I have many memories with Gayle. From going out to lunch with the EP gang to taking her up to Punta Gorda to Fisherman's village for the day. Visiting her with my little girl Piper who loved stealing her chips and dip when she wasn't looking. I miss you my friend!

Amy Brown - September 18, 2025 at 11:59 AM

JS

“ *Had a lot of fun times at the Moose lodge.RIP*

Judy Stengl - September 16, 2025 at 12:25 PM