



Ms. Gretchen Arlene Banker

July 23, 1935 - August 30, 2025

Gretchen Arlene Banker, age 90, passed away peacefully on August 30, 2025, after a brief stay at St. Francis Hospice in Titusville, Florida. Born on July 23, 1935, Gretchen lived a life marked by devotion, resilience, and deep love for her family and faith.

She was the daughter of Eddy Carroll and Gretchen Frances (Weigand) Carroll, both of whom preceded her in death. She was also predeceased by her former husband, Larry Rex Banker; her son, Daniel Brian Banker; her siblings, Richard Carroll, David Carroll, Adrian Lynnae Gilmore, and her brother-in-law, Robert Gilmore.

Gretchen is lovingly remembered by her children: Bruce Alan Banker (Karen) and Debra Ann Peplinski (Joseph), and by her daughter-in-law, Lonna Banker. Her legacy continues through her grandchildren: Daniel Banker II, Nina (David) Roelandt, Nicole (Kurt) Davis, Ashley Peplinski (Joel Spencer Myers, fiancé), and Joshua Peplinski, as well as six great-grandchildren who brought her endless joy.

Born in San Jose, California, and raised in Santa Cruz, Gretchen embraced her faith as a devoted Jehovah's Witness while in her early thirties—a spiritual commitment that remained central to her life even after relocating to Port St. John, Florida, where she lived and served in her faith for over 40 years. She found great purpose in her ministry, sharing the good news of Jehovah's Kingdom with others and remaining steadfast in her faith until the end.

Alongside raising her children and sharing her faith, Gretchen held a variety of roles throughout her career including as a switchboard operator, a customer service representative at Brighthouse, and a telephone operator at Wuesthoff Hospital. Her work reflected the same dedication and grace she brought to every part of her life. After retiring, she dedicated herself to caring for and enjoying her grandchildren, offering them not only her time but her warmth, values, and unwavering support.

Gretchen had a zest for life that showed in the little things: her love of cooking, collecting

antiques and vintage items, window shopping, attending family gatherings, spending time with friends, all threaded with her constant curiosity and desire to learn. Her smile lit up every room she entered, and her kindness left a lasting impression on all who knew her. She was a loyal friend, a devoted grandmother, and a woman of quiet strength and grace.

Her family and close friends will gather in a private celebration to honor her life and the legacy she leaves behind—a legacy of faith, love, and enduring devotion.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to the SPCA of Brevard at <https://www.spcabrevard.com/donate-now>.