

## Gayle Ann Wright Leslie Reese

Gayle left us 6/3/2023 after suffering from early onset Alzheimer's. The wonderful memories we all share of her generous spirit, glowing smile and effusive love for life will always be with us.

Gayle is survived by her three children Michael, Billy and Caitlin, and loving husband and caregiver William (Bill) Reese, her sisters Barbara Burns, and Judy Cashman.

Following are tributes written by Caitlin and Billy.

*As the hours dwindled* to minutes to seconds as you completed your earth side journey, all I could manage to say was, "I love you so much, and thank you so much." Eternal gratitude for bringing me into this world, supporting me into becoming the person I am today and for all of the memories full of love, joy, and laughter we have shared.

My mother died peacefully in her home of 30+ years. I had the privilege of supporting her in honoring her last wishes, the knowledge of a nurse, and the strength as her daughter to be right there by her side the last days taking care of her. It was beautiful, painful, and one of the hardest things I've ever done in my life... but to imagine the sleepless nights I've caused her, it was incomparable and nothing but love in action. She is free of the limitations her disease was causing her. Free to hike the mountains, paint, explore the world, and travel to her heart's content.

Nothing but gratitude and eternal love to you, Mom. Your strength, grit, sense of adventure, beauty, grace, and your fierce love are giving me strength to move forward and honor you in all I do.

Eternal love and gratitude **V** Caitlin Leslie Nave At an early age you showed me the value of adventure in this world. The incredibly positive power of the river and the rock.

Those family vacations up and down the east coast, rafting, climbing, fishing, and snorkeling, all having such a profound effect on who I am today. You were my first climbing partner, making a note that year to drive me an hour to the rock gym every week just to belay me. You always pushed us to follow our dreams, to pursue the things in this world that made us happy. These are the things the best moms do.

I am so proud of the mother you are and the family you raised. We had some of the best adventures and when we couldn't adventure anymore we found power and strength through movement and music.

Thank you for teaching and showing me the important things in this world. I will do my best to continue to let your power and beauty shine on through me. Thank you so so much for everything mom,

I'm going to miss huggin and lovin on you, but I am so relieved you are finally at peace. I look forward to continuing to feel your presence and love in the earth wind and water I love you

Bill Leslie