



## Debra J. Gerwing

September 11, 1965 - August 14, 2021

It is with deep sorrow and much love that we mourn the unexpected loss of our beloved mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and wife, Debra Jean (Smieja) Gerwing, 55 year old resident of Little Falls, MN, who passed away Saturday, August 14, 2021 at Fairview U of M Medical Center in Minneapolis. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 AM on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at Holy Family Catholic Church in Belle Prairie, MN with Fr. Ben Kociemba officiating. A visitation will be held from 9 to 11 AM Tuesday at the church. Arrangements are with Shelley Funeral Chapel in Little Falls.

Debra Jean Smieja was born on September 11, 1965 in Little Falls, MN, to the late Theodore and Darlene (Countryman) Smieja. She attended the Little Falls Community High School. Debra met the love of her life, Mark Gerwing at the age of 16, and they were united in marriage on October 17, 1987. Together they raised three beautiful children. She loved to help in raising her nieces, nephews and grandchildren as well, providing daycare for them at home. Debra enjoyed doing arts and crafts with the kids, and sewing quilts and baby blankets for her grandchildren. She loved taking “walk abouts” with her husband, taking selfies, and listening and dancing to music. MOST of all she cherished spending time with her beautiful family.

Debra is survived by her husband, Mark; children, Lacey Gerwing (Patrick Alexander), Kyle (Kelly) Gerwing, and Kelsi Gerwing (Kevin Stein), all of Little

Falls; grandchildren, Hailey Ollom, Watson Gerwing and Baby Stein; sister, Teresa (Steve) Voitalla of Pierz, MN; brother, Steven Smieja of Ft. Ripley, MN; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Theodore and Darlene Smieja; sister, Tina Poegel; aunt, Leanne Maslowski; cousin, Laura Lodermeier; and godson, Michael Lodermeier.

# Cemetery Details

## Holy Family Parish Catholic Cemetery - Belle Prairie

18777 Riverwood Dr  
Little Falls, MN 56345

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 24. 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Family Catholic Church - Belle Prairie  
18777 Riverwood Drive  
Little Falls, MN

## Mass of Christian Burial

AUG 24. 11:00 AM (CT)

Holy Family Catholic Church - Belle Prairie  
18777 Riverwood Drive  
Little Falls, MN

# Tribute Wall



“ *Lemieur Funeral Homes created a Tribute Video in memory of Debra J. Gerwing*



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**Lemieur Funeral Homes** - August 20, 2021 at 12:42 PM



“ *Debra J. Gerwing*

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January 21, 2023 at 11:59 AM



“ *Terri, I am so sorry for your loss. May she rest in peace. God bless you all.*



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**Debbie Jelinski-Harakel** - August 24, 2021 at 04:22 AM



“ *Though I didn't know Debra personally , she was married to my first cousin Mark (Herman Gerwing) , Marks dad was my dad's brother (Reinhart Gerwing ) . Sorry to hear about this loss of a Gerwing relative . Judy Huebner ( Gerwing )*



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**judy huebner** - August 22, 2021 at 01:53 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Debra J. Gerwing.*



August 22, 2021 at 09:15 AM



“ *Charlie And Dianne Ledbetter lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing*



**charlie and dianne ledbetter** - August 20, 2021 at 05:15 PM



“ *Gentle hugs, prayers, and condolences go out to the Growing and Smeija families. What I was much younger, I rode the bus with the Smeija family, particularly Tina and Debra. Terri graduated with my second oldest brother. Blessed be Debra's memory.*



**Claudette Moran** - August 19, 2021 at 02:41 PM



*That should say the Gerwing family. I was using my phone. Sorry about that. Blessed be Deb's memory.*

**Claudette Moran** - August 20, 2021 at 05:37 PM

CS

“ Carol Salber lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



carol salber - August 18, 2021 at 08:46 PM

MT

“ Michelle, Sandy And Tammy lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Michelle, Sandy and Tammy - August 18, 2021 at 11:48 AM

MM

“ Condolences to the family. Mary McCarthy



Mary McCarthy - August 18, 2021 at 11:17 AM

JJ

“ Jeff Joslin and Shelly Wysocki



Jeff Joslin - August 18, 2021 at 10:43 AM

DK

“ Darrell & Anna Klein lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Darrell & Anna Klein - August 18, 2021 at 10:04 AM



“ Kim DeDomines lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Kim DeDomines - August 17, 2021 at 08:09 PM

TW

“ Teresa Voitalla lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Teresa Voitalla - August 17, 2021 at 06:46 PM

TW

*She ment the world to me, can't believe she's gone. Love you!*

Teresa Voitalla - August 17, 2021 at 06:47 PM

MH

“ *Melody Hayes lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing*



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**Melody Hayes** - August 17, 2021 at 01:25 PM

SH

“ *Sharon And Dick Haggerty lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing*



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**sharon and dick haggerty** - August 17, 2021 at 11:03 AM

SH

*we will miss Debs wonderful witt and beautiful laugh. She will be missed*

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**sharon and dick haggerty** - August 17, 2021 at 11:05 AM

DW

“ *Our sincere condolences to the Gerwing family.* 🙏



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**Deb Wisneski** - August 16, 2021 at 07:59 PM



“ Shirley Kuchinski lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Shirley Kuchinski - August 16, 2021 at 06:19 PM



“ Mary Hoover lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Mary Hoover - August 16, 2021 at 05:59 PM



“ Kim DeDomines lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Kim DeDomines - August 16, 2021 at 04:02 PM



“ Linda Opstedal lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Linda Opstedal - August 16, 2021 at 03:19 PM

SH

“ Sharon Hirschey lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Sharon Hirschey - August 16, 2021 at 02:32 PM

SH

Thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Sharon Hirschey - August 16, 2021 at 02:34 PM

KB

“ Karen Bollig lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Karen Bollig - August 16, 2021 at 01:15 PM

KB

“ Kim Barnes lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



Kim Barnes - August 16, 2021 at 12:58 PM

AS

“ Audrey Stout lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



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**audrey stout** - August 15, 2021 at 05:04 PM

JW

“ She'll be missed was a really good cousin



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**Jennifer warzecha** - August 15, 2021 at 02:47 PM

JS

“ Jenny Stout lit a candle in memory of Debra J. Gerwing



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**Jenny Stout** - August 15, 2021 at 02:26 PM