



Phyllis R. Gerfen

January 22, 1937 - February 16, 2021

Phyllis R. Gerfen, 84, of Kansas City, KS passed away February 16, 2021, at her home. A visitation will be held from 1:00 - 2:00 P.M. with Funeral Services beginning at 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, February 23, 2021, at Maple Hill Funeral Home. Burial will follow in the Maple Hill Cemetery. Phyllis was born and reared in Pennsylvania. After graduation from Beaver Vocational High School in 1955 she moved to Harrisburg where she worked in the Civil Service branch at Olmsted Air Force Base in Middletown, PA. She was united in marriage to Martin Gerfen in 1958. She has lived in Kansas City since 1959 except for three years in Longview, TX in the 1980s. She was a homemaker and a member of the Living Church of God. She was preceded in death by her husband of 48 years, Martin; daughter, Linda Ruder; parents, George and Ruth Bickhart; brother, Robert Bickhart; and a granddaughter, Gina Ruder. She is survived by daughter, Susan Gerfen; son-in-law, Edward Ruder; grandchildren, Deborah Ruder, Angela Landreth (Ryan), and Johnathan Ruder; siblings, Arlene Flood, David Bickhart, and John Bickhart; and numerous other family members.

Live stream of services will be available at <https://fb.me/e/4R665CO2p>

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB **23**. 1:00 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
(913) 831-3345
info@maplehillfuneralhome.com
<https://maplehillfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

FEB **23**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Maple Hill Funeral Home
3300 Shawnee Dr
Kansas City, KS 66106
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Tribute Wall



“ *Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery created a Tribute Video in memory of Phyllis R. Gerfen*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - February 19, 2021 at 04:28 PM

JM

Very loving memories, beautifully displayed. I know so much more of Phyllis' life now, and her family. Thank you for this tribute!

Janet Myers - February 23, 2021 at 01:54 PM



“ *Phyllis R. Gerfen*

October 08, 2023 at 10:59 AM



“ *Phyllis R. Gerfen*

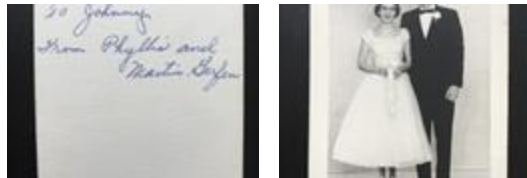
September 17, 2022 at 08:24 PM

JB

“ My sister Phyllis, being the oldest, and myself being the youngest, we were separated by a bunch of years. I vaguely remember those weekends when Marty would come to visit the family and Phyllis. As a kid, I just could not understand why Phyllis and Martin would sit in Marty's car across the street under the maple tree, talking for hours. What could be so interesting. I'm sure conversations with my two other brothers and sister would be delightful, but not to these love birds. I was told by my dad to "leave them alone or I would get the belt", and If you grew up in the late 50's, you know what that meant.

Growing up with Phyllis, she always called me Johnny, and I liked that. After all, I was her baby brother. The only big "run-in" I ever had with my sister was when her music was totally influenced by a certain guy from Oklahoma, AKA Marty. She somehow acquired the entire Rogers and Hammerstein sound track of the musical, "Oklahoma" on 45RPM records. She played them over-and over-and over, to the point where even I, a little kid knew the lyrics. One day, I decided I had enough of it and when Phyllis was out of the room, I turned off the record player.....without lifting the needle. (not a good thing). Naturally Phyllis was not happy and the word got out to my parents. I think I got "the belt" for that.

From the record player incident, I learned my lesson and found my sister Phyllis as always being the calm, collective and thoughtful person. After moving to Kansas, she would write us letters. I would love to read her handwritten letters, even better than a phone call. The hand written letters allowed me to re-read at a later date, reading her words, and hearing her voice in my mind. I will miss my sister, but I will forever hear her voice.



John A. Bickhart - March 07, 2021 at 05:45 PM

RW

“ Susan, God Bless you for the care you provided your mother. I enjoyed being around her in our LCG family. She will be a positive addition to GOD's world when we are together again.

Ron and Beryl Wilson - February 22, 2021 at 12:09 PM

LB

“ Leon and Loretta Bickhart purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Phyllis R. Gerfen.



Leon and Loretta Bickhart - February 20, 2021 at 03:42 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Phyllis R. Gerfen.



February 19, 2021 at 04:22 PM



“ 31 files added to the album *Life Tributes*



Maple Hill Funeral Home and Cemetery - February 19, 2021 at 04:08 PM

JB

It was nice to see our family as it grew over the years, and then adding Phyllis's family to the mix.....priceless.

John A. Bickhart - March 07, 2021 at 04:17 PM

DL

“ *David L. purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Phyllis R. Gerfen.*



David L. - February 19, 2021 at 12:40 PM