



Elke S. Saylor

September 9, 1957 - February 19, 2025

Elke Steffen Saylor, 67, of Whitefish Bay, WI, died in her daughter's home in Libertyville, IL, on Feb. 19, after several months of living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS).

Elke was born to Gisela and Arthur Steffen in Frankfurt, Germany in 1957. After the tragic death of their parents in a car accident, Elke and her sister, Karin, were raised by their grandparents, Auguste and Kurt Eisenberg. Elke studied German at Freie Universität Berlin before immigrating to the U.S. in 1979. She earned an MLIS from the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee in 1998 and worked at the Whitefish Bay Public Library and, later, the Muskego Public Library. She retired in 2023 to spend more time gardening, traveling to Germany, and caring for her beloved grandchild, Fiona. Elke loved reading, crafting, and her pet cats.

Elke was preceded in death by her husband, Les, in 2011. She is survived by her daughter Kristin Saylor (Kyle Oliver), sister Karin Steffen Maurer (Hermann "Dennis" Maurer), stepson Jeffrey Saylor (Donna Saylor), stepdaughter Heather Saylor Downey (Sean Downey), grandchild Fiona Saylor-Oliver, and step grandchildren Savannah Kutz, Talon Kutz, Tracy Saylor, and Sarah Saylor.

A memorial service will be held 11 a.m. on March 1, 2025 at St. Lawrence

Episcopal Church, 125 W. Church St in Libertyville, IL. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Les Turner ALS Foundation would be greatly appreciated. Arrangements by Burnett-Dane Funeral Home in Libertyville. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAR 1. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Lawrence Episcopal Church
125 W. Church Street
Libertyville, IL 60048

Tribute Wall

JW

“ I am so sorry to hear of Elke's passing. I worked with her at UWM where she was well respected as a German teacher--by colleagues and students. I fondly recall her talking about her family and how proud she was. My thoughts and prayers.

Jenny Watson - March 15, 2025 at 04:49 PM

KS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karin Steffen-Maurer - February 28, 2025 at 06:45 AM

KS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Karin Steffen-Maurer - February 28, 2025 at 06:38 AM

TR

“ *My deepest sympathy to you all. I was blessed to know Elke through the Muskego Public Library. Her dedication, positivity, and genuine personality resonated with everyone she came in contact with. I will cherish the knowledge, laughs and good conversations. Our family will be making a donation to the Muskego Public Library in memory of Elke. Tracy De Angelis, Library Patron - Muskego*

Tracy - February 26, 2025 at 10:24 AM

TF

“ *The Coninx Family purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Elke S. Saylor.*



The Coninx Family - February 23, 2025 at 07:16 PM

TF

“ *The Coninx Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Elke S. Saylor.*

The Coninx Family - February 23, 2025 at 07:16 PM