



Gaynor Hertlein SRN, RSCN

June 22, 1951 - June 17, 2022

Gaynor (nee Townroe) Hertlein, SRN, RSCN, who died on June 17, 2022, after a long illness, was, in no particular order, a much-loved wife, mother, grandmother, and nurse.

She was born in Nottingham, UK, in 1951. She graduated from Manning High School at 16, and became a nursing cadet, enrolled at Nottingham Children's Hospital, where she went on to earn her nursing degree, and became a State Registered Nurse (SRN), and then a Registered Sick Children's nurse (RSCN). Her nursing skill and compassion for the children were recognized, and she was soon promoted to Ward Sister for John Dane Player Ward at the Children's Hospital, becoming the youngest nurse to achieve that rank in the hospital's history. She assisted in organizing the move of the Children's Hospital to the brand new Queen's Medical Center (QMC) in 1977-78, and even got to shake the hand of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II during the grand opening of QMC.

In 1972 she met and married Bernhardt (Bernie) Hertlein, and eventually gave birth to two daughters, Sarah and Kimberley. However, marriage and starting a family did not lessen her love for her work, and Bernie often had to take her to the hospital after work or on her days off so that she could check on a particular child that she was concerned about. She would sometimes take a bed-bound long stay patient out in a wheelchair on her days off, just to give

them fresh air and a change of scenery. After Kimberley's birth and the death of her own mother in 1984, Gaynor retired from nursing to become a fulltime mother, and the family moved from Nottingham to Thelwall, in Cheshire, UK. Her love for pediatric care drew her back into infant care, and she became an assistant at the Thelwall pre-school children's playgroup (kindergarten).

In 1989, Bernie's job brought the family to United States, where they lived in Asheville, NC until 1992, then moved to Gurnee, IL, where Gaynor once again become a fulltime mother, and enjoyed expanding her cooking repertoire. She took particular joy in becoming a grandmother with the birth of Alexandria in 2008, and again with Kylie in 2018. Gaynor reveled in the role of grandmother, and provided Mama daycare for her granddaughters until her illness limited her mobility.

Gaynor was preceded in death by her mother and father, Gladys and Tim, her sister Diane, and brother-in-law Alan. She is survived by her husband Bernie, her daughters Sarah and Kimberley, son-in-law Scott, granddaughters Alexandria and Kylie, and nephew Simon.

Gaynor never wanted any fuss or ceremony, so there will be no formal service. However, she never lost her love of pediatric care, and always supported the mission of St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. If you wish to honour her memory, in lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to www.stjude.org, or a local children's hospital of your choice. For info: 847-362-3009 or share a memory at www.burnettdane.com.

Tribute Wall

LH

“ I remember Gaynor taking care of me after a miscarriage. Sarah was still a baby. I had to stay in bed and Gaynor kept me company, brought me food and we talked for hours. She made me so comfortable even though I took over their bedroom! We will always miss you Gaynor. And while you are in heaven put in a good word for us. Lovingly, Lisa

Lisa Hertlein - July 03, 2022 at 12:21 PM

JH

“ One of my fondest memories was the time Gaynor, her father and Berni visited us in Paris. We were all much younger and full of vim and vinegar. She was a big part of making it a really fun weekend and we all had a fantastic time. Gaynor particularly loved the "Paradis Latin" nightclub we went to. I remember she wore a very striking dress and after watching the master of ceremonies open champagne bottles using a sword, told me she never wanted to drink champagne that had been opened any other way.

Jim Hertlein - July 03, 2022 at 12:02 PM

HS

“ I stayed with Gaynor for a few days many years ago. (I can't remember where Bernie was) We just ate salted peanuts, drank wine and laughed and laughed. It was one of the best weekends I've had. Thank you Gaynor

Heidi stone - June 26, 2022 at 02:53 PM

MD

“ Already said what I wanted to say so here is one of two happy memories. Back in the days 🧑🏻🧑🏻 When Jo-Jo was born 🤰 I came to see you all at the hospital 🏥 with a most inappropriate gift for her 📺 (Smurf Game) as I didn't particularly know much about babies nor liked them very much and I asked Gaynor if I could hold her. You fell off your chair and I think if Gaynor wasn't in bed she would have done also. The look of shock on both of your faces was unforgettable. Gaynor handed Jo-Jo over and you both watched with a certain amount of anxiety in your faces. And I didn't let you down. After a few seconds Jo-Jo started to squirm and I quickly handed her back. I'm certain after I left, you both have a very good laugh about it because I was sure you were both holding it back at the look that was probably on my face when she did that. I still think babies are aliens and have only ever held 3 or 4 in my life time. 🧑🏻♀️ 🧑🏻🧑🏻❤️ (you need to read these emoji's backwards). The other memory also concerns Jo-Jo but I'll save that for another day 😊

Maggie Draper - June 24, 2022 at 10:17 PM

BH

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Bernie Hertlein - June 24, 2022 at 03:10 PM