



Gail Kruse

Bethalto | Monday, February 29 2016

Gail L. Kruse, 66, passed away at 9:10 pm Monday February 29, 2016, at Bethalto Care Center. She was born on February 9, 1950 in Alton, the daughter of Victor Jr. & Emma (Watson) Erzen. Gail married Rick H Kruse in Edwardsville on August 10, 1984. He survives. She received her Master's Degree at SIUE, specializing in Special Education. She taught in the Alton School District for 34 years and continued as a substitute teacher after retirement. She truly believed in every student she had ever taught and thought that she could make a difference in their lives. Along with her students, she especially loved her pets. In addition to her husband, Rick, Gail is also survived by her only daughter, Natalie and her son-in-law, Matt Little of Moro, three grandchildren, Abigail, Peyton, and Paige; a brother and a sister-in-law and a sister and brother-in-law, Dan & Marilyn Erzen of Bethalto, Vickye & Earl Kivett of Wellsley, MA; and several brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Mike & Vicky Kruse of Midway, Judy & Larry Henschen of Alhambra, CoAnn & Dan Connoyer of Midway and Donna & Jim Stack of Collinsville; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by an infant brother, Michael Erzen. Visitation will be held from 10 am until time of funeral services at 11 am Monday, March 7, 2016 at Elias, Kallal and Schaaf Funeral Home in Bethalto with Father Tom Liebler officiating. Burial will follow at Rose Lawn Memory Gardens in Bethalto. Memorials may be made to the 5A's Animal Shelter. Online condolence and guest book can be found at www.eliaskallalandschaaf.com or [www.facebook/eliaskallalandschaaf](https://www.facebook.com/eliaskallalandschaaf).