



Eileen Gandolfini Neuhauser

SEP 20, 1946 - NOV 22, 2023



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Eileen Gandolfini Neuhauser: loving wife to Charles Neuhauser and mother to Christopher, Stephen and Elizabeth passed away unexpectedly on November 22, 2023, at the age of seventy-seven.

She was born Eileen Marie Gandolfini on September 20, 1946, to Kay and Aldo Gandolfini of West Hartford, Connecticut. After graduating from high school, she spent three years working for the Community Renewal Team (CRT) in Hartford, first as a secretary and later as a grant writer. CRT has provided food, childcare and medical support to the Hartford area for more than 60 years. In 1968 Eileen volunteered for the Peace Corps and spent two years serving in Rabat, Morocco as an administrator and teacher. When she completed her Peace Corps service, she spent several months hitchhiking around Europe with several other volunteers. Eileen was fluent in French and Italian and knew a bit of Arabic.

Following the Peace Corps Eileen worked at MIT in the medical department. In 1972 she moved to Palo Alto and worked as an administrator at Stanford University. There she met Charlie Neuhauser who at that time worked down the hall from her office as a graduate student. They were married in 1981. Christopher arrived in 1983 and Eileen left Stanford to be a full-time mother. Stephen followed in 1985 and Elizabeth in 1989.

Eileen loved her children dearly and was very active in every aspect of the children's schooling and activities. Beginning in kindergarten she was a room mother along with several others, who after 35 years, still met for lunch once a month. She enjoyed watching our children play soccer, baseball and basketball and volunteered to help with band trips for both Cupertino Junior High School and Homestead High School. In between were hours of set-building for Sunnyvale Community Theater and Children's Musical Theater in San Jose.

Once Elizabeth (the youngest) went off to college, Eileen tossed her alarm clock in the trash and enjoyed the company of friends and the avid pursuit of mystery novels and television shows from every European country. She also enjoyed random drive-abouts across the US, Canada, and the



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Southwest, where in a spirit of adventure these trips were made only on country roads. Eileen loved the sea and would frequently visit beaches along California's beautiful coast.

In the spring Eileen's remains will be interred beside her father, mother and brother at Fairview Cemetery in West Hartford, Connecticut.

Eileen was pre-deceased by her parents Aldo and Kay and her younger brother Carl. She is survived by her sister Laura, niece Tracy, nephews Bruce and Brian and several grand nieces and nephews.

If you wish to donate in memory of Eileen, please consider the Peace Corp's Morocco Country Fund [<https://www.peacecorps.gov/donate/country-funds/morocco-country-fund-378-cfd/>] or any other charity that you support.

A graveside interment ceremony will be held on Saturday, June 29, 2024 at 11:00 AM (please try to arrive by 10:30 AM) at Fairview Cemetery, 200 Whitman Ave., West Hartford, Connecticut. The ceremony will be followed by a reception.

PS – The memorial ceremony here in California was really wonderful. Here is a link if you would like to view it

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uflgaYmkqSYiSPTPAFzNHh5oKy9-RYRL/view?usp=sharing>



Tribute Wall

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Linda Neuhauser posted:

To the Neuhausers, Gandolfinis and other family and friend of Eileen: It's hard to be brief about Eileen's amazing life and how it has enriched all of our lives and how much we miss her. Eileen was one of the kindest people (quote from my husband Craig), always interested in the positive aspects of other people's lives and generous with her appreciation of her family and friends. There's no way to over-express how much she loved her family—both on Gandolfini side (Yes—we've heard so many great stories about you in the "East Coast family!") and the family she and Charlie created. She doted on Charlie and her children, Chris, Stephen and Elizabeth. Every conversation with her was about their dreams and accomplishments and delight at the paths they have taken. Whether it was about Chris's engineering career, his exceptional partner Pauline, of Stephen's creativity and architectural accomplishments, or Elizabeth's production company, theater teaching and other jobs, she was so happy about the people they became and all they have contributed. One of the best quotes from Eileen about Charlie was "He just keeps getting better every year." This was something she said on a family outing in Santa Cruz where we spent many happy times. All spouses should be able to say that about each other! Speaking of outings, we all had a blast on their joint 70th birthday catamaran ocean adventure! Eileen's intelligence, perseverance, hard work and drive were impressive in her jobs and family-related activities. It was hard to imagine how she had the time and energy to do everything on her schedule and she was the linchpin for many school and community activities her family was connected to. She was an outstanding cook and shared mother Kay's famous spaghetti sauce (or maybe Grandmother Gandolfini's?) with us as well as other delicacies like mini-chocolate dipped macaroons (gotta get that recipe!) or Middle Eastern dishes. Some of you may remember that she even posted formal menus in the kitchen for special family get-togethers. We all know about Eileen's great sense of adventure from her pioneering time in Morocco in the new Peace Corps program to diving in to take on any task for her family to exploring the Adriatic with Charlie, or to the unusual road trips she and Charlie shared off the beaten path. On my last outing with Eileen, she was planning an outing for all of us at a lake near Sunnyvale. And, on her last outing, she was doing exactly what she loved—taking a boat trip with family in San Diego. Something Eileen and I shared was a love of reading. Uncannily, we liked many of the same novels and mysteries. She turned me on to many intriguing writers and hopefully, vice versa. There was a survey last year in the US that found that half of adults had read no books in the past year(?) Even "mega-readers" only averaged about 50 a year. Eileen no doubt surpassed them all. In our last visit together, I brought a "bag-o-books" for her and she exchanged the same with me. We'll now be going over her collection and sharing those books with family and friends. We will treasure our memories of Eileen—her kindness, curiosity, laugh-that-nobody-else-has, her many accomplishments, and her wonderful family (West and East) who have been so lucky to have her in their lives. Eileen, you'll continue to be a bright light for all of us! Love, Linda Neuhauser and Craig Buxton

June 27 at 8:19 AM



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Christine Mccutcheon posted:

Charlie, Think about you and your family in this time of sorrow. I'm hoping I can change life a bit to be at the service on Thursday. Who in the clergy will be leading it - I know sometime Steve Wilde comes back. Sincerely, Chris McCutcheon

January 21 at 9:33 AM



Charles Neuhauser January 21 at 10:28 AM

Chris - Thank you so much. Pastor Hejmanowski will be leading the service and the Music School will be providing the music. By the way, the service if Friday, January 26 (not Thursday) the time is 11:00 at Sunnyvale Presbyterian Church. I am going to have that added to the obituary.



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Eileen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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