



Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles

March 5, 1935 - March 24, 2025

Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles, peacefully entered heaven at 9:35 p.m. Monday, March 24, 2025. She was born March 5, 1937 in Alton, IL, the daughter of Ralph Albert and Eleanor Louise (Winter) Gent. Joanne graduated from Gulf Park College in Gulfport, Mississippi. On September 12, 1959 she married Lester B. Bowles in Alton. Joanne and Les, along with her sister and brother-in-law, Susan (Gent) and Robert Scoggins, purchased Gent Funeral Home from their parents in 1972. Joanne was a licensed funeral director for over 40 years and together with Les, they served many families in our community. Joanne enjoyed knitting, especially baby hats which she made for the maternity wards of our local hospitals. She was a member of Heartland Baptist Church in Alton. She was preceded in death by her husband, Les, on September 7, 2023. Surviving are her children, Lynn Hoffman and her husband Michael, Ralph Gent Bowles and his wife Dawn, Laura Bosse', and Louise Jacoby and her husband Stephen, six grandchildren, Nathanael Hoffman, Benjamin Bowles, Dr. Emma and her husband Dr. Kade Kanelakos, Josie Williams and her husband Cortlan, Joseph Bosse' and Samuel Bosse', one great granddaughter, Karter Lynnette Kanelakos. Also surviving is a sister, Nancy A. Gent. Along with her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her sister, Susan Scoggins Smith. Visitation will be from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Thursday, March 27, 2025 at Gent Funeral Home in Alton where funeral services will be at 11:00 a.m. Friday, March 28, 2025. Reverend Alex Melton and Reverend Andre' Dobson will officiate. Burial will be at Valhalla Memorial

Park in Godfrey. Memorials may be made to Heartland Baptist Church in Alton or Calvary Baptist Church in Alton. Online guestbook and information may be found at www.gentfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memorial Park

2308 W. Delmar Ave.
Godfrey, IL 62035

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 27. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home Inc
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Funeral Service

MAR 28. 11:00 AM (CT)

Gent Funeral Home Inc
2409 State Street
Alton, IL 62002
(618) 466-5544
<https://www.gentfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall

BW

“ Barbara W. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

Barbara W. - April 08, 2025 at 03:19 PM



“ Forever Our Angel Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



March 27, 2025 at 02:41 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

March 27, 2025 at 02:41 PM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



March 27, 2025 at 12:49 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

March 27, 2025 at 12:49 PM



“ The coffee crew at Godfrey bp. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



The coffee crew at Godfrey bp. - March 27, 2025 at 08:23 AM



“ Please accept our condolences during this difficult time. May you find comfort in the love that surrounds you!

Robert and April Bosse - March 27, 2025 at 06:54 AM



“ Janice Barkley Rennie purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



Janice Barkley Rennie - March 26, 2025 at 06:52 PM



“ Janice Barkley Rennie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

Janice Barkley Rennie - March 26, 2025 at 06:52 PM

RD

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy on the passing of Sam’s grandmother. May her love be a happy memory to fill your hearts.

Rachel Dickinson - March 26, 2025 at 06:34 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



March 26, 2025 at 06:14 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



March 26, 2025 at 12:22 PM

DG

“ Donna Gent (Daughter of Richard Gent) purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



Donna Gent (Daughter of Richard Gent) - March 26, 2025 at 11:56 AM

YB

“ Your friends at Carrollton Bank purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



Your friends at Carrollton Bank - March 26, 2025 at 09:56 AM

YB

“ Your friends at Carrollton Bank planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

Your friends at Carrollton Bank - March 26, 2025 at 09:56 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



March 26, 2025 at 09:40 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

March 26, 2025 at 09:40 AM

EH

“ Elle Heiligenstein-Hoffen Funeral Home purchased the Basket Full of Wishes for the family of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.



Elle Heiligenstein-Hoffen Funeral Home - March 25, 2025 at 07:45 PM

EH

“ Elle Heiligenstein-Hoffen Funeral Home planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles.

Elle Heiligenstein-Hoffen Funeral Home - March 25, 2025 at 07:45 PM

KT

“ May God grant you all comfort and encouragement during these days of farewell. She obviously taught you all very well. You all are a tribute to her faithful work as a mother and a professional! My sympathies.

Katie Thiel - March 25, 2025 at 07:15 PM

DG

“ Donna Kaye Gent lit a candle in memory of Joanne Louise (Gent) Bowles



Donna Kaye Gent - March 25, 2025 at 05:40 PM

DG

*(This was supposed to go with the candle)
I am sorry for your loss Ralph and the rest of the families! (My Dad, Richard A Gent was a cousin to Ralph Gent, the original owner) My sincerest condolences and Prayers to everyone in your time of bereavement. RIP, Love, and Paradise Ms. Joanne. Fly high with the Angels and God!! God Bless!*

Donna Gent - March 26, 2025 at 11:43 AM