



## Darletta Gehrlein

May 14, 1949 - January 12, 2025

Darletta Jean (Hansen) Gehrlein, died on January 12, 2025, in Wenatchee, WA. Darletta was born to Bill and Willetta (Ray) Hansen in 1949 in Mount Vernon, WA.

Darletta was a "206-er" at heart and always loved the green Skagit Valley and her childhood home on Broad Street in Mount Vernon. She grew up in a wonderful neighborhood filled with lots of friends (especially the Johnsons). Darletta attended K-12 in Mount Vernon, graduating from Mount Vernon High School in 1967, followed by attending Skagit Valley College.

Darletta met Bill Gehrlein, her husband of 36 years, in 1975 in a foxhole on a firing range at Fort Lewis while in U. S. Army Reserve training; and she later became an E-4 with the Bellingham Unit. Over the next six months, Bill introduced Darletta to his four children and his newborn granddaughter. In 1976, Darletta moved to Wenatchee, where she worked at Columbia Federal for a year. She retired from Alcoa after 30 years as an Office Administrator and loved, loved, loved all her co-workers. She enjoyed family time at Lake Chelan and vacationing in Bill's homeland of Germany. Bill passed away on May 18, 2012, at their family home of 35 years, following a short illness.

Darletta is survived by Cousins, Deb (Dave), Doug (Chrissy), and Kelsey and Devon (love them so much!); special friends the Johnsons, the Porters, Dale, Jeanine, Grayson, Ollie and Jaden; Theresa, Jeanette, Dave & Tina, and

Molly; and Bill's four children, Walter (Lynnette); Christina (Jim); Karl (Tricia); and Benny (Mary). "Auntie" Darletta is also survived by Bill's eight grandchildren, Dawn (Adam), Cassie (Wilson), Hailee (Lilah), Kyle (Jayme), Tara (Tomas), Ashley (Justin), Megan (Leon), Krystal (Chris); and his sixteen great-grandchildren, Zander, Coltin, Oaklyn, Greta, Ingrid, Emma, Hunter, Caleb, Carly, Madison, Kenedi, Lilly, Grayson, Logan, Raelyn and Aria.

Darletta was preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Willetta Hansen; her grandparents, Dudley and Amy Hansen; her husband, Bill of 36 years; his brother and sister, Walter and Sophie; Bill's 13-month-old great-granddaughter, Savanna Mae Schooler, (killed by a drunk driver). and stepmother, Leona Hansen.

Darletta thanks her cousins, the Gehrlein Family, and her special Wenatchee friends for their love and support. You will be greatly missed until we meet again. I love you all! Don't take yourselves so seriously and continue being kind to each other, family is all you have.

Darletta has requested no service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice if you wish. She will be laid to rest at Hawthorne Memorial Park, Mount Vernon, WA. with her mother and father.

That's all folks.

Arrangements by Chapel of the Valley, East Wenatchee.

# Tribute Wall

CF

“*Darletta - such a wonderful fun soul. Always a smile on her face and full of fun and laughter. I know these last few years were tough, but she still was smiling when I stopped to see her in the hospital last summer and in her apartment last month. Some of the first people I met when I moved to Wenatchee in 2003 were Bill and Darletta and it was always a pleasure visiting them. After Bill passed it was a joy to help Darletta with her home remodel projects and getting to know some of her friends and family. She truly loves you all! One of God's Angel's is now watching over us!*”

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**Cami Fox** - January 25, 2025 at 12:37 PM

TL

“*From the first day I met Darletta I loved her. Her smile, humor and sweet soul will always be with me. She was so special and loved by my family and she will forever be in our hearts and so many others. So many amazing memories i get to hold next to my heart!! Love, Tina*”

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**Tina Lambert** - January 20, 2025 at 10:53 AM

ES

“*Darletta was like my watchful older sister at ALCOA - Wenatchee Works when I first started in the Ingot Plant - fresh out of college. I knew no one and she welcomed me with a delicious apple that first day and she was ALWAYS so very kind and helpful. Made it so much fun to work with her every day. She always have a bright smile and was always good for a joke! God bless you Dar and thank you for the very special person you are and always will be to me and many, many hearts!*”

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**Eric Slind** - January 17, 2025 at 06:24 PM

DT

“ *Darletta was my second cousin. She was there for me all my life. She was with my family since I was born. She helped me through life and I considered her my older sister. Always kind and giving soul. You passed on my 64 th birthday. I know your in heaven where we will see each other again. Living in Alaska I didn't say good bye to you. I know even though we didn't see eye to eye anymore...I still was in your heart. Good bye my sweet sister in Christ...I know we will walk together in heaven. I will love you always.*

*Deb*

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**Debbie Tremko** - January 17, 2025 at 12:58 AM

VE

“ *We so enjoyed having Darletta as our neighbor. Great humor! Never a dull moment! Sharing games, critters, laughter, silliness, yard work....etc. she brought so much joy to our family and well dearly miss her!*



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**verellen's** - January 16, 2025 at 06:03 PM