

Prayer Vigil for Pam Gaarder

Miilhan Stephens
May 19, 2014



Dear Family,

As you may know our beloved Pam Gaarder passed to the spirit world this past Saturday night. She had a heart attack while traveling to PA to see her son and his wife. We understand that it was a quick passing.

In order to support her in a smooth transition, all are encouraged to pray in your own homes at 9pm. You are also welcome to pray at a time that is best for you.

We will be holding a prayer vigil this Thursday, May 22nd at 8pm at the Herstein's house. All are welcome to attend.

12303 Rustic Hill Dr.
Bowie, MD 20715

We will keep you updated on the dates for the viewing and Seonghwa Ceremony.

Below is a personal message from Liana posted on the Facebook Group dedicated to Aunt Pam:

Celebrating the life of Pamela Gaarder: www.facebook.com/groups/1472662769637611/

Let's support the family in anyway we can. Thank you.

God Bless you all,

Pastor Miilhan

Personal message from Liana Rodrigues

If this facebook group is the first time you're hearing about my beloved mother's passing, then I want to sincerely apologize to you for not calling you personally with this tragic news. I did my best to reach as many loved ones as I could in a more personal fashion, all while scrambling to take care of logistics in a city 3 hours away from my home.

My family consists of a bunch of tough cookies and I can assure you that we will all be OK. Our main concern is the financial situation, because my mom was the primary money maker who took care of regular bills, and my unemployed dad's only income is a humble social security check each month. But, everything works out in the end right? So I'm not too worried



What happened:

Somewhere between 8-10pm on Saturday May 17th, 2014 in Reading Pennsylvania, Pamela Jean Gaarder, 56, suffered a sudden heart attack, contributing factors include Hypertension and Diabetes.

Pam was making her way from Maryland to New Jersey in her beloved White Chevy Van to visit her son and daughter-in-law when she pulled into a McDonald's parking lot and was found by paramedics unresponsive. A car pulled up beside her around 10pm and noticed her slumped over the steering wheel, so they called 911. The paramedics did everything they could to try and revive her, but it soon became clear (and was confirmed by the coroner) that she had passed away fairly quickly due to a sudden heart attack. The coroner pronounced her dead at 11:30pm.

Her daughter, Liana was called at 10:49pm from Pam's cell phone. *phone rings* "Hi Mom!!!" Well, much to her surprise, the voice on the other end was an official man urgently asking medical history

questions, gathering contact information, and providing reassurance that everything was being done to try and help "Mom".

At 1am, the coroner called Liana to regretfully inform her that Pam had passed. After taking down all the information he could provide about the situation there and how to logistically move forward, Liana and her husband Arael left home immediately to pick up Craig (L's dad, Pam's husband), and they drove straight to Reading, PA and arrived at 7am. Fortunately the process of regaining Pam's possessions went smoothly. The three of them were also able to visit the McDonald's where Pam passed (see: photos posted in this group), which was actually amid a beautiful countryside setting.

Plans for Pam's funeral/Seunghwa are being worked out and will be announced in this facebook group as soon as they are officially arranged. To give you an idea of when it will be: we hope to have everything take place on this coming Saturday, May 24th. (subject to change)

Love and hugs to you all. Remember, the name of this facebook group should be a constant reminder that my mom would never want anyone to be sad at this time of transition!!! Let's celebrate how much of a blessing my mom was to each of our lives, and be grateful for the time she was on this Earth.