



Mrs. Gwendolyn Lake

March 28, 1936 - February 17, 2026

Gwendolyn Spriggs Lake, a woman defined by her elegance, quick wit, and a deeply caring heart, transitioned peacefully on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

She

was known affectionately to those who loved her as Mom, Mommy, Aunt Gwen,

Nana and “Gweny Poo.” Gwen possessed a radiant beauty and a presence that

could brighten any room. Born in Norwalk, CT, on March 28, 1936, she was the

daughter of Eugene Spriggs and Aleatha Powell Spriggs. Family was the cornerstone of Gwen’s life. She was one of four siblings. Gwen shared an unbreakable bond with her late sisters and brother, Doris Ann Bryan and Mary Virginia Givens; together, the trio was famously known as “The Spriggs Sisters”

and “The Golden Girls” from Tom and Mary Givens’ restaurant. In addition, she

had an older brother named Eugene Powell Spriggs Jr. also known as “Genie Boy” in which they were all close-knit. Throughout her life, Gwen drew strength

and wisdom from her siblings’ memories, remaining a steadfast believer in the power of prayer, family, and unity.

Gwen was a proud graduate of Norwalk High School in 1954. She dedicated

over

40 years to the Southern New England Telephone Company (SNET), where she

began as an operator and diligently worked her way up to become a Recent Change Memory Administration Center (RCMAC) specialist. In retirement, Gwen

followed her passion for working with children, serving as a Resource Aide for Norwalk Public Schools and a bus monitor for Westport Public Schools. For over

60 years, while being a dedicated member of Bethel A.M.E. Church, she served

on the Missionary Society and Scholarship Committee.

Gwen was known for her athleticism, her legendary sweet tooth, and her sharp,

quick-witted humor. A formidable presence on the lanes, many considered her a

professional-level bowler, a talent backed by the many trophies she earned.

She

was the epitome of fitness, dedicated to daily exercise and weightlifting long before it was a trend-whether she was leading the way in aerobics classes or keeping pace with the latest Jane Fonda VHS tapes at home. While she stayed

active, Gwen also nurtured an impeccable love for sweets. She was never far from her favorite chocolate-covered peanuts, Snickers bars, or brownies, and especially her own sweet potato pie that was world-famous amongst family and

friends. Those who truly knew Gwen understood that her wit was as sharp as her

spirit. She was never afraid to speak her mind, offering her honest truth with a unique blend of love and compassion that could brighten any day.

Gwen was a proud and loving mother that leaves a rich legacy to be

cherished

by her three children: Charlene Kennerly (Charles), Wendy Hankins (Ray), and

Jonathan Lake (Elise) all of Norwalk. Her memory will live on through her nine grandchildren: Taylor Kennerly of Beltsville, Maryland; Brianna and Rosalinda Kennerly of Norwalk; Brittany and Brayden Hankins of Norwalk; and Brennon Hankins of Gardena, California; Candice, Jonathan Jr. and Christian Lake of Norwalk. She was the proud great-grandmother of Leianna Kidd and Nahshan Hankins and a host of nieces and nephews. She also leaves behind special friends; Geneva Lewis and Willie Wheeler.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2026 from 10:00 am - 11:00 am, followed by a service of celebration at 11:00 am at Bethel AME Church, 19 Academy St., Norwalk, CT. Rev. Dr. Richard Wesley Clarke, officiant. Interment will follow at Riverside Cemetery, Norwalk.

Cemetery Details

Riverside Cemetery

81 Riverside Ave
Norwalk, CT 06850

Previous Events

Visitation

FEB 26. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel AME Church
19 Academy St
Norwalk, CT 06850-4016
(203) 852-7115

funeral

FEB 26. 11:00 AM (ET)

Bethel AME Church
19 Academy St
Norwalk, CT 06850-4016
(203) 852-7115

Tribute Wall

TG

“ To the Lake family Wishing you peace and comfort at this sad time sorry for your loss with deepest sympathy with love and prayers Ms.Traceylynn Grant -Landon and The Landon Family



Traceylynn Grant - February 26 at 02:53 PM

AG

“ For over 80+ years, Gwen we shared more than just a street. We shared childhood laughter, life's milestones, and all the years in between, your friendship was a constant gift in my life. The memories we made on Wood Street and throughout our sister/friendship will forever live in my heart.



Love Amelia Taylor-Goss
"Dukie" and
Brenda Taylor- Wright

Ameila Taylor- Goss - February 26 at 02:42 PM

TG

“ Traceylynn G. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Gwendolyn Lake.

Traceylynn G. - February 26 at 12:40 PM

WW

“ *My Gwen is one of my favorite people in the world. You will truly be missed. I miss our shopping and many phone calls all night. I know we will meet again.* ”



Willie and Henry Wheeler - February 25 at 04:52 PM

MS

“ *My condolences to the Lake Family. Your mom was a beautiful woman with a beautiful smile may she rest in peace.....* ”



Michelle Smith - February 25 at 11:09 AM

TL

“ *Sincerest condolences to you all. I have so many fond memories of "Aunt Gwen" while growing up. She was always a sweet and kind woman. May she RIP 🙏🙏🙏* ”

Tonya A Lake - February 24 at 03:47 AM

JM

“ *Janice Major lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Gwendolyn Lake* ”



Janice Major - February 23 at 10:04 PM

KW

“ My condolences to the family 🙏🙏



Kim WHITE-MILLER - February 23 at 08:40 PM

BR

“ Rip. Mrs . Lake. You. Will be. Truly missed . Condolences to. The. Entire. Family!! Bridget. Reid

Bridget. Reid - February 23 at 03:39 PM

VT

Sincere, comforting condolences from Rev. Velva Jean Tucker and the entire Tucker family. We've all known each other like forever!! To God be the Glory. Love to & from all of us! 😭

Velva Tucker - February 25 at 10:18 PM

NR

“ To the Lake Family:
I am so very sorry for your loss. Ms. Lake was a wonderful person and I'm so pleased to have been able to know her. May she rest in God's perfect peace.



Nicole Ruffin - February 22 at 01:34 AM