
ZOE ANN GEHL (1960-1979)
LdM Class of 1978



Madison, Wisconsin - October 11, 1979

Zoe Ann Gehl, age 19, tragically took her own life on October 11, 1979. For those who knew her, Zoe Ann was the life of the party, a good friend to everyone she met, a champion for the underdog, an unstoppable positive force.

Zoe Ann was born June 3, 1960, in Kankakee Illinois to William (Bill) Gehl and Barbara Bolger Gehl. She was the fifth of seven children and made her mark through her extraordinary positive spirit. Zoe Ann was survived by her mother, Barbara Gehl; brothers, Bill (Kathy) and Tom; sisters, Kathleen Beamer (Allen), Christine, Jennifer, and Laura; nieces, Virginia Gehl and Christie Beamer; nephew, Josh Gehl; grandmother; Zoe Weaver Bolger; and countless aunts, uncles, and cousins. Her father, Bill Gehl, preceded Zoe Ann in death.

Zoe Ann excelled at everything she tried because she put 110% effort into life. While at Marillac, Zoe Ann was freshmen class president, on the gymnastics team, on the honor role, and involved in volunteer efforts.

Moving to Northern Wisconsin for her junior year, she was on the Lakeland High School gymnastics team and Homecoming Queen. Her family then moved her senior year to Madison Wisconsin where Zoe Ann attended Edgewood High School.

Mental illness is at epidemic levels and suicide is one of the leading causes of death in the United States. Reach out to a friend or loved one if you suspect they are struggling with their mental health. If you are suffering, please have the courage to seek help.