



Gayle Jean Leland

July 13, 1946 - April 29, 2026

Gayle Jean Leland, 79, passed away on April 29, 2026. She was born on July 13, 1946, in Chardon, Ohio, to Roland M. Elliot and Marjorie E. Rafuse.

Gayle will be remembered for her strength, honesty, sense of humor, and deep love for her family.

She was active in her community and volunteered with the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Sarasota, where she served as past president several times.

She shared a close bond with her beloved dog, Desi, who was by her side throughout the last years of her life and brought her daily comfort and companionship.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James Leland; her daughter, Shannon Lyn Utman-Murray; and her brother, Wayne Elliott.

She is survived by her companion, John O'Leary; her grandchildren, John Goldstein, Sarah Murray, and Payne Murray; her great-grandchildren, Madison, Jonah, and Juliet; and her brothers, Robert Elliott and Allen Elliott.

Gayle will be remembered for her strong spirit, straightforward nature, sense of humor, and the small everyday things that made her who she was. She

carried a youthful energy and strong personality throughout her life. She will be deeply missed and forever remembered. Her love, presence, and legacy will live on in all who knew her.

A funeral service will be held May 20, 2026, at 11:30 a.m. at Toale Brothers Funeral Home, 40 N Orange Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236.

A committal service will follow at 1:30 p.m. at Florida National Cemetery in Bushnell.

A celebration of life will be held May 23, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at the Fraternal Order of Eagles, 8347 N Lockwood Ridge Rd, Sarasota, FL 34243.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Sarasota County Animal Services in her memory.

Upcoming Events

Funeral Service

MAY 20. 11:30 AM (ET)

Toale Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory - Colonial Chapel
40 N. Orange Avenue
Sarasota, FL 34236
(941) 955-4171
info@toalebrothers.com
<https://www.toalebrothers.com/>

Committal Service

MAY 20. 1:30 PM (ET)

Florida National Cemetery
6502 S.W. 102nd Ave.
Bushnell, FL 33513

A Celebration of Life

MAY 23. 2:00 PM (ET)

Fraternal Order of Eagles
8347 N Lockwood Ridge Road
Sarasota, FL 34243