

Deceased Name: Gayla Denise Reiter 1945 - 2018

Oregonian, The (Portland, OR) - March 28, 2018

• Section: Obituaries

Gayla Denise Reiter Sept. 12, 1945 - March 13, 2018 Gayla Denise Reiter, a Past Life Regression Therapist and community advocate, passed away Tuesday, March 13, 2018, at the age of 72. Gayla is survived by her nieces, Tamara Young-Dechon, Teresa Lester and Tracey Young; one nephew, Matthew Green; along with seven great-nieces; five great-nephews; and one great-great-niece; her closest and dearest friends, Robert DePillis, Gretchen Givens and Sheila Zangara; cats, Bruno and Sophie; along with many other close friends and colleagues who will miss Gayla's advocacy and determination. Gayla was preceded in death by her mother, Maxine Reiter; father, Gail Reiter; sisters, Juliette Green and Janette Young; and beloved daughter, Layla Scott Reiter. Gayla was born in Beloit, Kan., Sept. 12, 1945. She was the oldest of three girls. When she was 12 her family relocated to Portland, where Gayla graduated from Grant High School in 1963. Gayla went on to study history at Portland State University, where she received her Bachelor's Degree. She did post-graduate work at Harvard University. Some years later she became a certified hypnotherapist. Among her multiple accomplishments, she almost single-handedly was responsible for Federal legislation declaring October SIDS Awareness Month and increasing spending for SIDS research tenfold. On the State level she was likewise responsible for legislation establishing medical protocols for coroners, training first responders (a bloody froth was a typical SIDS symptom and parents would sometimes be hauled off to jail in the wake of their tragic loss) and public education programs. Gayla had also been a national Vice President of the union when she worked for Social Security. She won a number of national grievances, often up against Social Security Administration's top attorneys; she astounded the parties by reciting case law off the top of her head. And again, she was highly regarded in psychic and spiritual circles for her work in past life regression in both private sessions and teaching courses at many colleges. She loved Mexico and Hawaii, where she would vacation annually, but stated that her favorite country was India—which she had also visited. Apart from having precious individual friendships with Gayla, many people also attended the biweekly Metaphysical Group that she hosted for over 10 years at her home. They studied a wide range of topics, and benefited greatly from her wisdom and knowledge. So many women and men were blessed over the years from having her intuitive guidance. Gayla loved helping those in need, especially those less fortunate. Many were touched by her generosity of spirit and great heart. In lieu of flowers or gifts, please make a donation in Gayla and Layla's memory to your local SIDS Foundation. As Gayla would say..... "Namaste" Please sign the online guest book at www.oregonlive.com/obits

• Record: *e17aa72beae4f23a1117edbd2d1e28c9e66296f1*

• Copyright: *Copyright (c) 2018 Oregonian Publishing Co.*