# Gwen Booker Merkey

*October 22, 1949 ~ October 31, 2018*

Gwendolyn Louise Booker Karageorgiou Barrett Merkey

Gwen was born to Roland and Carmelita Sanborn Booker at home on the Fisher Road, Holden, Maine on October 22, 1949. She was the sixth daughter and youngest of 8 children.

Gwen was a woman of true character with healing hands. Her strength, integrity, honesty, generosity, hospitality and unconditional love for all were unsurpassed. She enjoyed traveling, nature, country walks, bicycling, singing hymns and spiritual songs and creative writing. There was always a word of encouragement, smiles, hugs, jokes and belly laughs.

She married "Andy the Tailor" Anastasios Karageorgiou from Rhodes, Greece. They had 3 children, Melanie Jayne Karageorgiou Withee, Theoniki "Nikki" Maria Karageorgiou Martin and George Charles Karageorgiou.

Having children at a young age and not graduating with her class in 1968 at Brewer Maine High School did not stop her from completing her GED at Bangor Maine High School in 1972. She graduated from Hollywood Beauty and Barber College, Salt Lake City, UT in 1986. Gwen joined Young Living Essential Oils and enjoyed sharing with people she might help.

She came to West Jordan, Utah in October of 1974 for a visit with her sister Charlene Bachman for a "change of environment" after a depressing divorce. Her plans to return to Maine changed when she got waitressing and home health care jobs in Utah. She married Thomas Sylvan Barrett and was married for 10 Ω years before his passing in September 1989.

She prayed for years for a loving, godly husband and family man before she met and married Andrew Peter Merkey of Cordell, Oklahoma on October 22, 1993. They have resided in Kearns, Utah until her passing.

A visitation will be held Sunday evening from 6:00 , 8:00 p.m. at the Kearns East Stake Center, 4715 South 4300 West, Kearns, UT. A memorial gathering will be held Monday morning from 9:00 a.m. , 12:00 noon at the same location. Interment Larkin Sunset Gardens Cemetery.