



Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy

October 10, 1943 - August 13, 2024

TOWNSEND: Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy, 80, of Townsend, died Tuesday, August 13, 2024 at Health Alliance – Leominster Hospital.

Her husband of 63 years, Charles J. “Jay” Murphy, died in July 2021.

Sheila was born in Fitchburg, October 10, 1943, the daughter of the late Frederick C. and Ruth (Belanger) Gorham and grew up on Hazel Street in Fitchburg. She has resided in Townsend for nearly 60 years.

She was a 1961 graduate of St. Bernard’s Central Catholic High School in Fitchburg and later continued her education at Fitchburg State College where she received a Bachelors Degree in Nursing.

For over 45 years Sheila worked in a variety of positions at Burbank Hospital in Fitchburg before her retirement in 2017. Sheila was a member of St. John’s Church in Townsend,

The American Nursing Association, Member of the Oncology Nursing Society and the Massachusetts Nurses Association. She served in an advisory capacity to the American Cancer Society and had served as an EMT to the Townsend Ambulance Service.

She leaves two sons, Sean C. Murphy and his wife, Margaret S. of Germantown, MD, Scott M. Murphy and his significant other, Tracy Griffin of Townsend; three grandchildren, Macklin S. Murphy, Mikaela L. Murphy, Margaret R. Murphy and several cousins, nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her brother Gerald L. Gorham in 2003.

Sheila's Funeral Mass will be celebrated 10 Am Monday, August 26, 2024 at St. John's Church, 1 School Street, Townsend. Interment will follow at Hillside Cemetery.

Calling hours are 2-5 Sunday, August 25th at the Anderson Funeral Home, 250 Main Street (Rte 119) Townsend Center. www.andersonfuneral.com

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Cemetery Details

Hillside Cemetery

31 Highland St
Townsend, MA 01469

Previous Events

Calling Hours

AUG 25. 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Anderson Funeral Home - Townsend
250 Main Street ~ Route 119
Townsend, MA 01469
(978) 597-2692

Funeral Mass

AUG 26. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
1 School Street
Townsend, MA 01469

Tribute Wall



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy.



August 23, 2024 at 03:53 PM

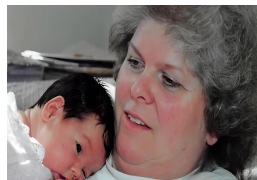


“ Townsend Fire-EMS Relief Association planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy.

Townsend Fire-EMS Relief Association - August 23, 2024 at 03:53 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Sheila R. Murphy



Anderson funeral home - August 23, 2024 at 10:12 AM



RIP my friend ❤️ you will be greatly missed by so many. My memories will always be in my heart.
You are now with Jay ❤️

Sharon - August 23, 2024 at 12:32 PM

BW

Sending our heartfelt condolence to the entire family. She was an amazing person. Sending healing thoughts and prayers.

Brian & Kimberley Watson

Brian & Kimberley Watson - August 23, 2024 at 05:08 PM



“ *Fiery Lily and Rose was purchased for the family of Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy.*



August 22, 2024 at 01:58 PM

EA

“ *Ecat and Grace Team at ASC planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy.*

Ecat and Grace Team at ASC - August 22, 2024 at 01:58 PM

LJ

“ *Sheila was a Townsend EMT the same time as I was and we did a lot of calls together, She was very knowledgeable and willing to share that knowledge with us and made us all better EMT's. She will be missed!!!!*

Lee Jeddrey - August 21, 2024 at 07:03 PM

CM

“ I have known you my entire life. In the early years you were mother like, as time went on we became friends, fun friends. Lots of memories and laughs were shared. Enjoy your reunion with Jay. You'll be missed
Until we meet again, rest easy SRM.

Carol M.Anderson - August 21, 2024 at 11:47 AM

SM

“ The Family requests that you please donate to the American Cancer Society in lieu of sending flowers. Thank you.

Sean Murphy - August 21, 2024 at 08:23 AM

JH

I am so sad to hear of your mom's passing. I remember our time working together at Burbank hospital and the wonderful visit is to Wells Maine. My prayers are with you and your brother.
Sincerely, Jacquie Thibodeau Hawkins

jacquie hawkins - August 25, 2024 at 08:13 PM

MR

“ I have so many fond memories of our friend. Sheila was always there for me. She was a wonderful Oncology Nurse and challenged me to be better. She cared for everyone like they were family. She loved learning and earning and maintaining her Oncology Certification was very important to her. We had tough times, but mostly happy and fun times. I will miss our weekly talks and her never ending support.

Mary Jane Ruth - August 20, 2024 at 06:30 PM

CO

“ *Sheila was a long-time, wonderful friend and fellow RN nursing student and coworker. Our then, daily commute to Mt. Wachusett Community College and then Fitchburg State College were rides filled with testing each other with questions for the upcoming tests! She was a respected RN and a valued Oncology Certified Nurse. RIP my friend.*

Carol O'Connell - August 20, 2024 at 04:52 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy.*



August 20, 2024 at 11:47 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sheila R. (Gorham) Murphy.*



August 20, 2024 at 09:32 AM