



## Lydia Gardner Rau

June 3, 1939 - July 4, 2025

Lydia Rau of Grayson, Georgia passed away July 4th, 2025. When Lydia's name

was mentioned, someone almost always said, 'Oh, she's so nice!' or "Oh, I love her!"

She was predeceased by Karl, her college sweetheart, to whom she was married for

almost 60 years. Surviving family are her daughters Robyn, of Grayson, GA, and Susan

Bleza, of Munster, IN. She will also be missed by her beautiful grandchildren Nicholas,

Alexandria, Brendan, and Samantha. Not to be forgotten is her beloved companion and pet Maddie.

Lydia was raised in St. Louis by her parents, Gardner and Nannie Shaw Basye.

She attended Missouri Valley College, where she met Karl. They began their family in

Chicago, then settled in Evansville, Indiana, where they lived and built lifelong friendships.

After Karl's death, Lydia moved to Grayson to be with her daughter and was welcomed into Robyn's church community and among her friends.

A Celebration of Life will be held this July 19th, 2025 at Grayson United

Methodist  
Church.

Grayson United Methodist Church  
555 Grayson Parkway  
Grayson, GA 30017

The Visitation will begin at 1:00 PM in the Welcome Center and the  
Celebration Service  
will begin at 2:00 PM in the Sanctuary.

In lieu of flowers, please honor Lydia Rau by donating to one of the following  
National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Nationalmssociety.org

Society of Humane Friends

SOHFG

PO Box 667

Dacula, GA 30019

Old North United Methodist Church

4201 Stringtown Road

Evansville, IN 47711

Grayson United Methodist Church

555 Grayson Parkway

Grayson, GA 30017

Arrangements by Tim Stewart Funeral Home, 300 Simonton Road SW,  
Lawrenceville, GA 30046. 770-962-3100. Please sign the online guest registry  
at [www.stewartfh.com](http://www.stewartfh.com).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 19. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Grayson United Methodist Church  
555 Grayson Parkway  
Grayson, GA

## Celebration of Life

JUL 19. 2:00 PM (ET)

Grayson United Methodist Church  
555 Grayson Parkway  
Grayson, GA

# Tribute Wall



“ Happy to honor Lydia with a donation to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. <https://www.nationalmssociety.org/> Love, Sandy and Max Bleza

Sandy Bleza - July 18, 2025 at 02:14 PM

RO

Love you Sandy and Max, thank you for your sweet thoughts and memories.

Robyn - July 22, 2025 at 07:49 AM



“ Shared many family holidays making memories with Lydia and Karl. She was one of the kindest people I have ever met. Always smiling and loving her grandchildren. May you rest in God's peace Lydia. Sandy and Max Bleza

Sandy Bleza - July 18, 2025 at 02:08 PM

EA

“ Erik and Amy purchased the Sweet Tranquility Basket for the family of Lydia Gardner Rau.



Erik and Amy - July 17, 2025 at 07:34 AM

EA

“ Erik and Amy planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Lydia Gardner Rau.

Erik and Amy - July 17, 2025 at 07:34 AM

JB

“ *Deepest sympathies from your NHS classmates Sue.*

Julie Brooks - July 14, 2025 at 10:27 AM

RO

*Thank you for your kind words*

Robyn - July 22, 2025 at 07:52 AM

BS

“ *I worked at welborn many years ago she was a sweet heart, you girls can be proud she talked about you offen*

Betty Steinkamp - July 12, 2025 at 10:35 AM

RO

*Thank you for sharing your kind words and memories of mom.*

Robyn - July 22, 2025 at 07:54 AM

DV

“ *I remember Lydia well. I had the pleasure of knowing her when I worked at Welborn Clinic Evansville IN. many many years ago. Lydia was one of the sweetest, most positive and most patient co worker/friend I have ever met. She always had a beautiful smile. God Bless her family and friends so sorry for your loss. Debbie Jackson VanWinkle*

Debbie VanWinkle - July 11, 2025 at 09:54 AM

ER

*The Italian Club of Evansville would like to send our prayers and sympathy on the passing of Lydia. Karl was a long time member of our Italian Club in Evansville. We greatly loved his homemade biscotti that he brought each year to Mike Scavuzzo's home. Lydia and Karl attended many Columbus Day gatherings through the years. God Bless*

Eric Russ - July 20, 2025 at 01:01 PM