



**Gale Blomstrom**

*April 16, 1953 – January 23, 2024*



**'Tis a Fearful thing**

'Tis a fearful thing  
to love what death can touch.

A fearful thing

to love, to hope, to dream, to be –  
to be,

And oh, to lose.

A thing for fools, this,  
And a holy thing,  
a holy thing  
to love.

For your life has lived in me,  
your laugh once lifted me,  
your word was a gift to me.

To remember this brings painful joy.

'Tis a human thing, love,  
a holy thing, to love  
what death has touched."

*–Yehuda HaLevi*



**GRIEVE NOT**  
nor speak of me with tears  
but laugh & talk  
as if we were  
beside you there

I love you so,  
'twas heaven here with you.



## Gale Blomstrom

She lived a vibrant life. Her kindness and warmth remain etched in the hearts of those she touched. Survived by her husband, Greg Sorlie; stepchildren, Nicolas and Jennifer Sorlie; brother, Greg Blomstrom, and his wife, Debby Harrison; she leaves behind a cherished network of friends and family.

### **Gale was many things.... She was:**

A beloved daughter, sister, wife, stepmom, and friend to many.

A graduate of the University of Idaho with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies.

A dedicated state worker with 30 years of public service, focusing on environmental management.

An avid birder, lover of wildflowers, and all things natural.

A passionate participant in outdoor activities—hiking, backpacking, and kayaking.

A Master Gardener with her own vegetable and flower garden.

An athlete who played tennis, rode her 10-speed everywhere, and completed a marathon.

An avid reader and member of two book clubs, sharing much joy and laughter.

A wonderful cook who delighted in preparing dinners and contributing to potlucks with friends.

Someone who inherited her mother's love for singing, serving as an alto in three choirs.

A lover of mountains, embarking on treks with Greg in the Himalayas, Andes, Alps, and Patagonia.

A dedicated volunteer at the Olympia Timberland Library, Food Bank, and Nisqually Wildlife Refuge.

A lover of travel and adventure, exploring the world alongside her husband and friends.

*May her memory continue to bless those whose lives she touched.*

April 13th , 2024

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE PROGRAM

Olympia Unitarian Universalist Congregation

### **Prelude**

Welcome - Chalice Lighting, Opening Words - Reverend Mary Gear

Music: "Water Is Life" by Sara Thomsen,  
performed by Treble Voices for Peace

### **Honoring the Life of Gale: A Eulogy**

Musical Interlude: "Let Me Sing For You" by Maggie Wheeler,  
performed by Treble Voices for Peace

### **A Time for Sharing**

Visual Presentation of a Life Remembered

Music: "This Pretty Planet" by Tom Chapin and John Forster,  
performed by Treble Voices for Peace  
*(Please join us in singing)*

Closing Words - Reverend Mary Gear

### **Postlude**

Reception in the Foyer and Patio Immediately Following

The Blomstrom-Sorlie family has asked that memorial donations be made to organizations she supported: Capitol and Nisqually Land Trusts, Black Hills Audubon, Planned Parenthood, and Olympia Peace Choir.

