



## Gail L. Souther

April 21, 1943 - April 1, 2019

Seabrook – Gail L. Souther, 75, of Seabrook, passed away peacefully on Monday, April 1, 2019.

She was born in Amesbury, MA on April 21, 1943, the daughter of the late Philip and Louise (Currier) Corbin.

Raised in East Kingston and later Amesbury, MA, she graduated from Amesbury High School with the Class of 1961.

Gail dedicated her life to raising her family and later in life worked for Community Action in Haverhill as a secretary for nearly 25 years, retiring in 2017.

Surviving family members include her husband of 54 years, Alan Souther of Seabrook; son, Jeffrey Souther of Newbury, MA; grandchildren, Travis Souther and his wife Marissa of Amesbury, Tyler Souther of Newburyport and Trevor Souther of Newbury; and great granddaughter, Hayden.

A graveside service will be held at 1 PM on Friday, April 5, 2019 in the Bartlett Cemetery, Amesbury. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Amesbury Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses, 179 Storey Avenue, Newburyport, MA 01950.

# Events

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**APR** **Graveside** 01:00PM

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Bartlett Cemetery

Main Street, Amesbury, MA, US, 01913

# Comments

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“ To Gail's family...I knew Gail through Community Action where she was a ray of sunshine as she welcomed everyone that entered the building with her bright smile and cheery Hello, how can I help you? Gail had a gift of making everyone feel that they were so special and important.  
My prayers and blessings,  
Lucinda Nolet

Lucinda Nolet - April 06 at 08:08 AM

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“ The many personal and heartfelt tributes here powerfully demonstrate so well that Gail was truly the "voice of Community Action, Inc.(CAI)" for many years and for literally thousands of people. She "ran" the main switchboard, effectively linking callers with over 100 staff, as well as greeting walk-in visitors just inside the main entrance. This is no easy task. I can safely say that not many staff members feel comfortable with or capable of doing it. Frequently, several people phone in and more come through the door simultaneously. Because CAI is a complex organization, with many different departments and programs, callers and visitors don't always know exactly who or what to ask for. And because many of the callers and visitors face serious human challenges like hunger, homelessness, loneliness and trauma; many want and need to share their stories, often not realizing that Gail might be balancing similar needs of several others at the same time. Gail was great in a caring way with helping people figure out how we might be able to help. The tributes also show how much she was at the heart of CAI. Gail had a smile for everyone, even just through her voice and manner on the phone; and she treated callers and visitors with the respect and courtesy that each deserved. I miss all these qualities about her as well as her great sense of humor and fun and her hearty laugh. My heartfelt sympathies to you, Alan, and to your entire family. Losing anyone is seldom easy. Losing such a remarkable lady can be even more difficult. Thank you for "sharing" Gail for so many years with us and with all the people CAI serves.

John Cuneo

John Cuneo - April 04 at 11:29 PM

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“ I started working at Community Action in 1996 and had many wonderful conversations with Gail. She always had a smile, and her grace and professionalism were always welcoming to anyone who walked through the door, or called on the telephone. I still miss her lovely face greeting me when I go to the main office. Rest in peace lovely lady <3

Dianne Gobeil - April 04 at 10:49 AM



“ Dear Souther Family, My sincere sympathy in the recent loss of your wife and mother. Gail and I worked together for many years at CAI in Haverhill and we certainly enjoyed many laughs. She was a special lady and enjoyed dealing with the public as the front line receptionist in her own respectful way. May she rest in peace.  
Karen Courtney

karen courtney - April 04 at 09:26 AM

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“ Gail was always pleasant and kind. She will be missed by her CAI family. Sincere sympathy to her loved ones.  
~Sue Curtis

SUE CURTIS - April 03 at 01:52 PM

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“ Gail was the sunshine that greeted me very morning when entering work at CAI. She brought happiness to everyone who met her or worked with her. She knew every department, everybody's name and whenever there was a question that I couldn't answer, Gail was the one who knew it all. I missed her when she retired and I will miss her even more now. Sending prayers to comfort your family in this time of sorrow. RIP Gail! You will be brightening up the heavens now with your sunshine!  
Donna O'Connor



Donna O'Connor - April 03 at 11:51 AM

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“ I worked with Gail at Community Action and loved hearing her voice in the morning and on the phone. She had a fabulous memory, which was fitting, as she is unforgettable. So sorry for your loss, Alisa Povenmire



Alisa Povenmire - April 03 at 10:09 AM

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“ Remembering a great classmate - Gail was always most pleasant to talk to. Condolences to Al and family. Lester Sinton

Lester Sinton - April 03 at 07:30 AM

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“ So sorry to hear of Gails passing. My thoughts and prayers are with you Alan and with Jeff and his family. Alan, I would be there if I could to give you support. I was thinking about both of you the other day. Rest in Peace Gail

Virginia Souther Swartz



Virginia Swartz - April 02 at 10:12 PM

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“ My condolences to Gail's family. I worked five years with her at CAI and stayed in touch with her. She was like a second mom to me listening to all my problems with being a single mother. I will miss her alot.

Lori Blackstone - April 02 at 08:37 PM

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“ Hello, my name is Donna (Perkins) Doerr. Glail and where class mates at Amesbury High School. We hung around together when she lived with her grand parents. I will always remember her very fondly. We had some great times together especially at the CYO dances. Please know that I am thinking about you at this time and wishing you comfort and peace.

Donna M. Doerr - April 02 at 04:19 PM

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“ I’m so sorry to hear of Gail’s passing! My condolences to her husband and family. May she Rest In Peace!

**Sandy Wheeler Walby** - April 02 at 03:53 PM

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“ So sorry for her passing. Gail was a wonderful friend and classmate. She will be missed. Condolences to her family. Rest in peace dear friend.

**Karen Haley** - April 02 at 03:39 PM



“ So sorry to hear about Gail. We were born the same day and our mothers were roommates at the former Amesbury Hospital. I guess you could say we “go way back.” We graduated together and even though we lost track over the years I always thought fondly of her. Keeping you in my thoughts and prayers.

Joan Hudon

**joan c. hudon** - April 02 at 05:56 PM



“ Sad to get this news. RIP neighbor and classmate. Best to Alan and family.

**Dennis Melia** - April 02 at 07:38 PM



“ I had the great joy of seeing Gail's beautiful smile every morning I went to work at Community Action. She and I have birthdays a day apart and we always enjoyed sharing that special time together. I will miss her dearly. Love and prayers to your family, DeAnna Tashjian

**DeAnna** - April 03 at 11:47 AM



“ Gail's voice was so special at Community Action. One of the reasons we never automated is because we didn't want to lose her humanity on the phone. She was so welcoming and friendly. Gail was always happy to see me and check out what I was wearing. We both loved clothes! She was one-of-a-kind person and we were lucky to have her with us for so many years at Community Action. I wish the family well during this time of sorrow.

Deborah Linett

**Deborah Linett** - April 03 at 02:55 PM



“ Growing up, my father worked at Community Action and Gail was always incredibly warm and welcoming anytime I visited. I met a lot of coworkers, but I remember Gail the most vividly and the last time I had the pleasure of seeing her was probably 15-20 years ago. We need more people like Gail. Deepest condolences on her passing.

**Ian Browning** - April 03 at 04:04 PM



“ Gail was my wonderful co-worker. She knew all the ways that Community Action could help people. She gracefully directed people (who often entered the office a bit nervous) to exactly where they needed to go. People felt heard and respected. Gail was the perfect greeter, gatekeeper, face of the organization. She was one of the reasons that it was so good to work there. There are several departments at Community Action; it is a diverse organizations helping people in many different ways. Gail brought us all together on the

shared mission to improve lives and empower our neighbors. She WAS pure sunshine. It was an honor and a joy to spend my 15 years at Community Action with Gail Souther.

Bill Browning

**Bill Browning** - April 04 at 03:19 PM



“ Gail and I became good friends during her many years of service at CAI. Gail and my daughter Erin shared the same birthday - April 21- so I made sure to say happy birthday to her every year. I remember how Gail worked with Erin during "bring your daughter to work day". Gail was very patient and friendly with Erin who was about 12 years old at that time. Gail spent many hours with her teaching her how to run the switchboard and how to greet the many walk-ins that visited CAI. Erin had a great experience. I will always appreciate Gail for her kindness. Gail served as the voice for CAI for almost 25 years. She always made visitors and phone callers feel welcomed. Gail best represented CAI's mission of treating all people with respect, dignity and understanding. My deepest condolences to her family and friends.

Richard Lynch

**richard lynch** - April 09 at 10:49 AM