



BELDING – IONIA Free and Accepted Masons Lodge #355

211 East Main St
Belding MI, 48809

Brethren of Belding-Ionia Lodge No. 355 -

It is with great sadness that I share the passing of Gayla Marie (Jensen) Riches, wife and mother of our Brothers David Riches Sr and David Riches Jr.

Gayla and David were married for 51 years and built a life together centered around family, service, and community. They were blessed with two sons, David Jr. and Derrick.

Gayla had battled lymphoma since 2007. In her final weeks, she was able to come home and be surrounded by the people she loved most. She passed peacefully at home with her family by her side.

Gayla was the first person in her family to graduate from college and she spent much of her career working at several local hospitals, including in hospice care, where her kindness and compassion brought comfort to many families during difficult times.

She also gave generously of her time to the Belding community. Gayla served as a past president of the Belding Athletic Boosters and was later honored with induction into the Belding Redskins Hall of Fame.

Those who knew Gayla will remember her strength, her caring heart, and the love she had for her family and community. She will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Please keep David Sr., David Jr., Derrick, and the entire Riches family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

Sincerely and fraternally,

Dave Vetra PM

Worshipful Master, Belding-Ionia Lodge No. 355