



Mrs. Gabrielle E. Downey

December 20, 1929 - June 21, 2025

Gabrielle Eva (St. Hilaire) Downey, of 39 Highlawn Drive, Pittsfield, MA, passed away peacefully on June 21, 2025, surrounded by the love and comfort of her family. Affectionately known to many as “Gabby,” she was the devoted wife of the late Robert Downey, with whom she shared a loving marriage beginning in 1951.

Born in Adams, Massachusetts, Gabrielle was the cherished daughter of Lillian Paradis and William St. Hilaire and one of nine children in the St. Hilaire family. Her early years in Adams laid the foundation for a life rooted in faith, community, and strong family bonds.

Gabby began her career at New England Bell Telephone and later brought her warmth and creativity to the Putnam (Hallmark) Store on North Street in Pittsfield. She eventually continued her lifelong commitment to helping others by working as an elder care aide, supporting friends and neighbors in need. Her generous spirit extended through her many years of volunteer service at local schools and as a devoted member of both St. Francis and St. Agnes Churches.

Known for her great sense of humor, kind heart, and deep compassion, Gabby brought joy and laughter wherever she went. She was passionate about lifelong learning—especially history, art, and science—and found great

joy in crafting, often creating thoughtful handmade gifts for her loved ones. Above all, she treasured time with her family and built a home filled with love and connection.

Gabby was a loving and selfless mother to her six children: Kevin Downey, Greg Downey, Shawn Downey, David Downey, Gail Downey, and MaryBeth Furlano. She was also a proud and devoted grandmother to: Brady Furlano, Zachary Furlano, Ian Downey, Ariel Brazee, Adam May, Amaya Downey, Freddie Downey, Bruce Downey, and Angela Downey.

Gabrielle was predeceased by her beloved husband, Robert Downey, and by eight of her nine siblings, whom she now joins in eternal peace.

Her memory will be treasured by all who knew her—for her love, laughter, compassion, and unwavering strength.

Funeral Notice:

Funeral services for Gabrielle will be Saturday, June 28, 2025, with a Liturgy of Christian Burial at 12 noon at St. Agnes Church, celebrated by the Rev. Christopher Malatesta, Pastor. Burial will be at a later date.

Calling hours at the Dwyer-Wellington Funeral Home in Dalton, 525 Main St, Dalton MA, will be held directly prior to the service, from 9:30am to 11:30am.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gabrielle's name to the Alzheimer's Association at www.donate.brightfocus.org.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN **28**. 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM (ET)

Dwyer -Wellington Funeral Service
525 Main Street
Dalton, MA 01226
(413) 684-0215
information@wellingtonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wellingtonfuneralhome.com/>

Service

JUN **28**. 12:00 PM (ET)

St. Agnes Church
489 Main St.
Dalton, MA 01226

Tribute Wall

JD

“ *May His arms hold all of you with abounding comfort at this time. We pray for the family and give praise as he brings his child home. Love, John and Pam Dallaire.*

John Dallaire - June 28, 2025 at 06:46 PM

NF

“ *Nicole, Emily, Ray and the ACL family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Gabrielle E. Downey.*



Nicole, Emily, Ray and the ACL family - June 27, 2025 at 06:05 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mrs. Gabrielle E. Downey.*



June 26, 2025 at 12:06 PM



“ *A grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mrs. Gabrielle E. Downey.*

June 25, 2025 at 09:35 PM

PB

“ Pamela B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mrs. Gabrielle E. Downey.

Pamela B. - June 25, 2025 at 07:30 AM