



Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake

December 10, 1948 - April 20, 2025

Mineral Point - Eileen (Goldthorpe) Drake, age 76, of Mineral Point, passed away peacefully on April 20, 2025, in the home of her daughter in Blanchardville.

Born on December 10, 1948, in Beloit, Wisconsin, Eileen was the daughter of Robert and Claire Goldthorpe. She was preceded in death by her parents; her infant sister Dorothy; her sisters Marsha and Terri; her brother-in-law Dick Jelle; her nephew Jeremy Olson; her niece Pam Kinsman; and her nephew Tylor Wilson. Raised in a home grounded in love and strong values, Eileen carried that foundation with her throughout her life.

She proudly served her country for 30 years in the United States military, embodying resilience, strength, and unwavering dedication. Her service was a defining part of who she was, and she brought that same spirit of commitment and care into everything she did.

Eileen is survived by her husband David Drake, her children Sheila (John) Dempsey, Katherine Drake, Daniel (Amber) Drake, Davida Drake, Donald Drake, Tammy Bradshaw, and Jimmy Slater. She was a beloved grandmother to Jamie, Jessica, Tyler, Kaitlyn, Savannah, Cameron, Raymond, Drake, Parker, Jack, Jameson, Gavin, John, Shayna, and Shania—and a proud great-grandmother to many more.

She is survived by her siblings Mary (Ray) Murphy, Colleen (Lenny) Hooks, Lori (Mike) McGowan, Daniel (Kaye) Goldthorpe, Roberta Jelle, and Robert Goldthorpe, along with a large extended family of nieces and nephews who adored her.

Eileen will be remembered for her strength, her generous and accepting spirit, and her unwavering love for family. If you knew her, you loved her. She helped anyone without hesitation and never let anyone leave hungry—“Have you eaten?” was her trademark greeting. Known for feeding the masses and fixing everything from broken hearts to scraped knees, she brought calm confidence and fierce love to every room she entered. She was a force—stubborn, nurturing, selfless, and unforgettable.

After a life lived fully and fiercely, Eileen's journey came to a peaceful close. There's no easy way to say goodbye to the woman who raised you, shaped you, and stood beside you through every chapter. Her family is heartbroken—but deeply grateful for every laugh, every lesson, and every memory.

Rest now, Mom. We'll carry you with us, always.

A Visitation will be held on Monday, April 28th from 4:00–7:00 p.m. at Gorgen Funeral Home in Mineral Point and on Tuesday from 10:00 until 10:50 AM at the church. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Tuesday, April 29th at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mary & Paul Catholic Church in Mineral Point, followed by burial with military honors at St. Paul's Cemetery. A luncheon will follow in the church basement.

The family invites all who knew Eileen to join them in sharing memories, photos, and stories as they celebrate her remarkable life.

To honor Eileen's love for nature and her community, memorial donations may be made to the Arbor Day Foundation's Memorial Tree Program, or a tree may be purchased through Aspen Ridge to be planted within the Mineral Point community—a lasting tribute to her appreciation for the outdoors. Contributions are also welcomed to the Mineral Point Community Chest, helping support local children—a cause that meant a great deal to her.

As a final tribute to her vibrant spirit, the family kindly requests that guests wear her favorite color—purple—to the services.

Cemetery Details

St. Mary's Cemetery

700 Dodge Street
Mineral Point, WI

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 28. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Gorgen Funeral Home
310 Ridge Street
Mineral Point, WI 53565
(608) 987-3421
gorgenfh@mhtc.net

Visitation

APR 29. 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM (CT)

St. Mary's & St. Paul's Catholic Church
224 Davis St
Mineral Point, WI 53565-1113
(608) 987-2026

Mass of Christian Burial

APR 29. 11:00 AM (CT)

St. Mary's & St. Paul's Catholic Church
224 Davis St
Mineral Point, WI 53565-1113
(608) 987-2026

Tribute Wall

AB

“ Aunt Butch, Mike and Louise Barlass purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



Aunt Butch, Mike and Louise Barlass - April 28, 2025 at 03:14 PM

AB

“ Aunt Butch, Mike and Louise Barlass planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Aunt Butch, Mike and Louise Barlass - April 28, 2025 at 03:14 PM

FL

“ Forest Products Lab purchased the Serene Retreat for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



Forest Products Lab - April 28, 2025 at 08:02 AM

FL

“ Forest Products Lab planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Forest Products Lab - April 28, 2025 at 08:02 AM

AH

“ Angela H. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Angela H. - April 27, 2025 at 03:59 PM

AL

“ Aunt Shirley and Leo purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



Aunt Shirley and Leo - April 27, 2025 at 06:11 AM

AL

“ Aunt Shirley and Leo planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Aunt Shirley and Leo - April 27, 2025 at 06:11 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



April 23, 2025 at 10:55 PM



“ Garden Accent Stone - "Wherever a Beautiful Soul..." was purchased for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



April 23, 2025 at 10:51 PM

NR

“ Nathan Leigh ~n~ Nicholas Reynolds purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



Nathan Leigh ~n~ Nicholas Reynolds - April 23, 2025 at 06:41 PM

NA

“ Nathan A. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Nathan A. - April 23, 2025 at 06:26 PM

CB

“ Carlee B. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Carlee B. - April 23, 2025 at 02:54 PM

DF

“ Daniel & Ruby Drake and Family purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



Daniel & Ruby Drake and Family - April 23, 2025 at 02:14 PM

DF

“ Daniel & Ruby Drake and Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.

Daniel & Ruby Drake and Family - April 23, 2025 at 02:14 PM

SF

“ Shelia Curtis and Family purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



Shelia Curtis and Family - April 23, 2025 at 11:45 AM

JG

“ Such a sweet lady. Will be missed by all that knew her. God bless

John Grubbs - April 22, 2025 at 08:07 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Eileen Marie Mercedes (Goldthorpe) Drake.



April 22, 2025 at 06:14 PM

TF

“ Elieen was my boss while I worked for the National Guard as a contractor in Yellow Ribbon Department. She quickly became a friend. We shared a birth month....only 3 days apart. I still miss pedicure Fridays! One of my favorite memories is the day Elieen and I followed the President Obama's motorcade onto the airbase after work and ended up getting in on a behind the scenes tour of the president's car! Two days later we stood side by side watching the presidents plane land, while I took pictures...and got a picture of the president walking off the plane! She was right beside me running back to the parking lot when our security guard came flying out the building yelling-"Tracy get back behind our gate! Secret Service is coming!" Guess we found a weak spot in their security! We laughed a bit and counted our lucky stars the security guard saved our butts! I attached our legendary picture for you all to see! I still miss the shenigans, Elieen!

Elieen was a smart, strong, funny and wonderful lady. She always supported me and was always there for me. I loved her dearly. She brought me into her family and gave me oppertunity to be meet and get to know all of her wonderful kids! I have enjoyed getting to know each and every one of them and experiencing some of their big moments while photographing them and perserving those memories.



Tracy Fleck - April 22, 2025 at 10:31 AM

AR

“ I only had the pleasure of meeting Eileen a couple times, but she seemed like an amazing and loving woman! So sorry for the familys loss

Alex Ray - April 22, 2025 at 10:16 AM

JM

I knew Eileen, when her family were neighbors at my family on the farm located on North Survey Road (70 years ago). She had a very hard life which laid the ground work for her to become a wonderful person.

Please rest in peace .

John T. Matthias

John T. Matthias - April 22, 2025 at 03:01 PM



I went to school on North Survey with Eileen then high school. My sympathies to the families of Eileen. Diane Arneson Cushman

Diane Arneson Cushman - April 25, 2025 at 12:26 PM