



## Danni Gendelman

March 7, 1932 - October 30, 2021

### Danni Gendelman

Passed away peacefully on October 30, 2021 at age 89. Beloved wife of the late Sheldon Gendelman, mother of Lori (Jim), Jeff (Ginny), and Stefan (Lisa) Gendelman. Cherished grandmother of Megan, Sara, Adin, and Loren Gendelman.

Doran "Danni" Gendelman was born in Menomonie, Wisconsin, and is a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Madison with majors in Theatre, French and Merchandising. After marriage, she did graduate work in design at Marquette University, and did Masters studies at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee in Theatre, Philosophy and World Affairs. Additionally, thirty years were spent in theatre directing, acting and teaching.

Danni founded InterPlan Office Products Inc. in 1970. InterPlan, a Herman Miller dealer, became one of the most successful contract design and furnishings firms in Wisconsin, with offices in downtown Milwaukee and Appleton. InterPlan's focus was primarily design and furnishings of the workplace, concentrating on offices and healthcare facilities.

InterPlan was one of the largest "Women Owned Business Enterprises" in the state of Wisconsin, and nationally in the top 500.

For many decades, Danni has been a fresh water ambassador and educator. Her love of fresh water, nature, dogs, skiing, horseback riding, sailing, swimming, and hiking, lead to Danni founding Great Lakes Future (GLF) in 1992. GLF, a nonprofit organization, was dedicated to the development of a fresh water environmental education center on the downtown Milwaukee shore of Lake Michigan.

Danni became known as the "Grand Dame of Fresh Water". Years later, creating great synergy of purpose, GLF merged with Wisconsin Lake Schooner Education Association with the goal of establishing a shared facility on Milwaukee's Municipal Pier. Without her passion for fresh water education and research, the extraordinary Great Lakes Future exhibit at Pier Wisconsin would not exist today. At 84 years old, Danni spoke in front of 5000 people at Panther Arena when she earned her honorary PhD from UWM's School of Freshwater Sciences.

Danni's community involvement spans many decades including starting Rondel Art Studio and service on the boards of Theatre X, Renaissance Theatre, Discovery World, and Urban Ecology Center. She was also a co-chair of the Downtown Milwaukee Rotary Club's Environment Committee.

Married to her best friend, Shel Gendelman, for 63 years, they share three adult children and four extraordinary grandchildren, all of whom live in the Milwaukee area.

Graveside services 11:30 AM Tuesday, November 2, 2021 at Second Home Cemetery, 3705 S. 43 St., Milwaukee. Memorials to Great Lakes Future at Pier Wisconsin or Urban Ecology Center.

Wear something blue to honor Danni's lifelong commitment to freshwater and stewardship of the earth.

From 3-5:15 PM on Tuesday, the family will see friends at 10451 N Stratford Place, Mequon, WI 53092. At 5:30 PM there will be a minyan at Klode Park, 5900 N Lake Dr, Whitefish Bay, WI 53217 overlooking Lake Michigan at the north bench.

Blane Goodman Funeral Service is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom.

Topic: Danni Gendelman Minyan

Time: Nov 2, 2021 05:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86069760135?pwd=OEQvTmhyYjMwVEVKVGhoMS81UWYrdz09>

Meeting ID: 860 6976 0135

Passcode: Klode

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,86069760135#,,,,\*643303# US (Chicago)

+19292056099,,86069760135#,,,,\*643303# US (New York)

Dial by your location

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 860 6976 0135

Passcode: 643303

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kew30bScnF>

# Cemetery Details

## Second Home Cemetery

3705 S. 43 St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53220

# Previous Events

## Graveside Service

NOV 2. 11:30 AM (CT)

Second Home Cemetery  
3705 S. 43 St.  
Milwaukee, WI 53220

# Tribute Wall



“ *Danni Gendelman*

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October 06, 2023 at 01:40 PM



“ *Danni has been a great role model for me. Summer Street, Interplan, on the slopes, on the Great Lake....Shel, classical music, trees, support, love. Love you cuz's. 🌿*

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**Elizabeth Crawford** - November 15, 2021 at 01:03 PM



“ *My Sympathy's to the Gendelman family. I was so sorry to hear of Danni's passing. I always enjoyed visiting with her and adorable Foxy when they lived at Sarah Chudnow. She was such a wonderful lady! She will be missed by all.*

*Kathy Lorenz*

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**Kathy Lorenz** - November 03, 2021 at 07:25 PM

AB

“ I am a member of CEEBJ and had first seen Danni there. My late mother was at Silverado when Danni first moved there with her beloved dog. I spoke with Danni often during those months. To honor my mother's love of art, and give her one last visit to an art museum, at my suggestion, Silverado arranged for my mother, several other Silverado residents, staff and me to visit the Milwaukee Art Museum. Danni was most excited to be part of the group. As we wandered the galleries, Danni stopped at several paintings--and slowly took in what she saw, clearly enjoying herself. Danni's intelligence and sophistication were fully present. May her memory be a blessing to all her family.  
Audrie Berman

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**Audrie Berman** - November 02, 2021 at 01:07 PM

FG

“ Danni was a champion for all seasons - she personified a woman without limitations for community leadership roles while maintaining a warm and open heart - Annie and I much enjoyed our boat rides on Lake Michigan with her and She'll - Rest In Peace dear friend 🙏  
🙏💕 Annie and Frank G

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**franklyn gimbel** - November 01, 2021 at 08:24 AM