



Nina Martel Goetz

April 6, 1970 - April 25, 2024

Nina Martel Goetz (nee Nina Denise Martel), 54, passed away unexpectedly in her sleep on April 25, 2024, at home in Evanston.

Born in Chicago, Nina was the eldest identical twin sister by nineteen minutes (“Thing One”/”Nini” and “Thing Two”/”Ceci”) and raised in Rogers Park. Nina graduated from Clinton elementary school, and attended Mather High School and Chrysalis Learning Community before studying Earth Sciences at Northeastern Illinois University.

Nina loved motorcycles and rock and roll. She was whip-smart and one of the wittiest people around. She left innumerable funny voice memos, turned nearly every sentence into an acronym (tnesiaa), and authored the following line -- “there are thirteen commas in this paragraph”-- which she surreptitiously inserted at irregular intervals within her sister’s thesis. Nina was also the “Patron Saint of Everybody” as she always placed others first, sometimes to her own detriment. She was a fantastic mother who adored all the kids on her neighborhood block in South Evanston.

In 1988, Nina saved her sister’s life by donating one of her kidneys. She answered inquiries as to the cause of her significant scar by dryly asserting that she was a magician’s assistant or had survived a shark attack. In 2017 and 2019 the Martel sisters made legacy trips to Turkey following their father’s

death, where they connected with cousins. The sisters have relatives on four continents: North America, Europe, Asia, and Australia.

Nina was endlessly loved and loving.

Beloved wife of 25 years to Charles “Chaz” Mark Goetz (whose wits she matched); devoted mother of children she referred to as “Charleah” - Charles “Charlie” Ambrose (partner Andrea De Abreu E Gouvea) and Leah Louise Goetz. Cherished twin sister of Elise Martel (Julian) Cohen; loving aunt of Gabriel, Saul, Isaac, and the late Adam “Manny” Emanuel Cohen; dear cousin of Esta (Neil Lindenbaum) Miller and Moshe Miller, and “kuzen” of the Feri, Başak, and Tuntas families of Istanbul, Türkiye.

There is nothing in this universe Nina was prouder of than her children. Upon bringing Charlie into the world – sans meds or profanity – she looked upon him and said “this can’t be Charlie... I know this face already” and whispered “hello again”. Leah -- being Leah -- had her own plans and tried to greet the world bass-ackwards. Nina accommodated Leah’s arrival (many meds and much profanity) and backed the spirit of her fierce “monstah star fish” ever since.

Nina will be greatly missed by true friends Emalee Dana and “The Devon Girls” --Holly, Shana, and Sophia.

Nina is preceded in death by her parents, the late George Martel and Susan Joy (Shoshana Simcha) Martel (nee Mullen).

Please hold your loved ones closely. Nina would wish for us to “keep on swimming”.

The family has chosen a traditional Jewish Tahara to bring Nina’s body into a

state of grace. As she was also a woman of fire, the family has chosen a private cremation.

Celebration of Life, Saturday, July 20th, 1-4pm, Evanston American Legion Post # 42 located on the Canal Shores Community Golf Course (near the Chandler Newberger Center). The address of the Post is 1030 Central St, Evanston, IL 60201.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her name to The Ark Chicago <https://arkchicago.org/>.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUL **20**. 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM (CT)

Evanston American Legion Post #42

1030 Central Street

Evanston, IL 60201

<https://evanstonpost42.com/>

Tribute Wall

EM

“ *Collegiate mountainA*



emmy mountain - May 26, 2024 at 06:42 PM

EM

“ *BFF*



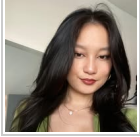
emmy mountain - May 19, 2024 at 07:53 PM

EM

“ *Tor is not quitting until she finds you said she can travel*



emalee - May 04, 2024 at 08:33 PM



“ *Nina Goetz was a beautiful, kind, caring woman who I will remember as the life of the party and whose laugh could fill a room. Most of my childhood memories are at her house, with her mom offering endless food to me, so much so it seems like a bit. I think that her memory is best reflected in those who were surrounded by her love, especially her children Charlie and my childhood best friend Leah. I know they will carry on all the best qualities of Nina and I see her face in their smiles. May her beautiful family be adored. Sending my deepest condolences.*

Gracie Bowser - May 03, 2024 at 12:26 PM

EM

“ And a woman who held a babe against her bosom said
"Speak to us of children"
Your children are not your children
They are the sons and daughters of life's longing for itself
They come through you but not from you
And though they are with you yet they belong not to you
You may give them your love but not your thoughts
For they have their own thoughts
You may house their bodies but not their souls
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow
Which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams
You may strive to be like them
But seek not to make them like you
For life goes not backward, nor tarries with yesterday
You are the bows from which your children
As living arrows are sent forth
The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite
And he bends you with his might
That his arrows may go swift and far
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness
For even as he loves the arrow that flies
So he loves also the bow that is stable

emalee - May 02, 2024 at 03:15 PM



“ Elise, we never had the chance to meet your sister, but we feel as though we know her through the stories you've shared, and because you carry such a big part of her within you. May her memory be for a blessing.

Paulina Hubli - May 01, 2024 at 09:27 PM

EC

Thank you, Paulina.

Elise Martel Cohen - May 06, 2024 at 02:42 PM

SB

“ *Nina bina - so many memories.* ”



Sophia Beach - May 01, 2024 at 01:02 PM

EC

Thank you, Sophia. Love you

Elise Martel Cohen - May 04, 2024 at 10:11 AM

EC

“ *2 files added to the tribute wall* ”



Elise Martel Cohen - May 01, 2024 at 07:45 AM

EC

“ 7 files added to the tribute wall



Elise Martel Cohen - May 01, 2024 at 07:39 AM

EC

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Elise Martel Cohen - May 01, 2024 at 07:34 AM

KM

“ 1 file added to the album Nini



Kerstin Matz - April 30, 2024 at 05:28 PM

EC

Thank you, Kirsten.

Elise Martel Cohen - April 30, 2024 at 07:38 PM

EC

Empty Bottle, circa early 90s, Los Straight Jackets w/Kerstin

Elise Martel Cohen - May 01, 2024 at 07:35 AM

EM

“ 3 files added to the album Nini



Emmy - April 30, 2024 at 09:32 AM

EC

Oh Em. Thank you.

Elise Martel Cohen - April 30, 2024 at 07:50 PM

SD

“ *Nina, may you rest in peace and know we are all thinking about you and will be here to hear you talk to us. I have know you almost all of your life. I love you and always will please know that. Yellow candle means hope.*
Love Suzanne



Suzanne Dubman - April 30, 2024 at 06:36 AM

EC

Suzanne, thank you

Elise Martel Cohen - April 30, 2024 at 07:50 PM