

Joyce Kay Takekawa

Joyce was born on December 31, 1948 to John and Phyllis Takekawa in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She died on March 13, 2020 at the age of 71 due to a 4 year courageous battle with cancer. She was married briefly to Charles Grady in the 1970's. She had two sisters, Carol and Susan, and one brother, Scott. She also had 5 nieces and 2 nephews. In 2005, Joyce met Gerry Houlder and spent the rest of her life with him.

Joyce grew up in Richfield, MN graduating from Richfield High School in 1966. She was in the band and was on the National Honor Society. She received a full ride to Macalester College where she went for 4 years. She graduated with a biology degree in 1970. She then went to the University of Minnesota to get her master's degree in teaching. After student teaching, she decided she did not enjoy teaching. So, she went on to get her Medical Technologist degree. She worked in various hospitals as a Medical Technologist for over 40 years.

Joyce had a 20' cabin cruiser on the Mississippi River which was her joy for many years.

She believed highly in education and helped her sister with a loan when she was in college.

Joyce also loved to travel. When Gerry traveled for work, she went along with him and toured the cities they were in, visiting museums, zoos, gardens etc. while Gerry was in his meetings.

She took vacations to Northern MN with her cousins, Florida with one of her sisters and husband, and North Carolina with her other sister and husband.

She learned how to play golf and took her dad along with Gerry and her cousin golfing every weekend.

Joyce looked forward to monthly family gatherings to celebrate family birthdays.

She loved getting together for lunch with her Macalester friends, work friends, and longtime friends.

Because she did not have kids of her own, she loved her nieces and nephews and would go to their soccer games, basketball games, dance competitions etc. She even went to their kids' games and concerts when they had kids of their own.

She was a member of St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie for over 10 years

Joyce loved to volunteer in her retirement. She volunteered at her church for funerals. She also volunteered at the MN Landscape Arboretum helping with classes for kids.