



Martha "Marty" Kay Kolander

April 29, 1936 - December 16, 2018

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Martha "Marty" Kay Kolander, who passed away on Sunday, December 16, 2018 at the age of 82, just 21 days after her husband, Dick Kolander, unexpectedly passed away. All who knew Marty and Dick know that they are now together dancing and laughing and at peace.

Marty was born on April 29, 1936 to parents Norman and Thelma Fairbanks in Ann Arbor, Michigan and was raised in Ypsilanti. She married Richard "Dick" Kolander on September 20, 1958 and spent 60 wonderful years together. Together they had two children, Daniel and Betsy Kolander.

She took her roles of homemaker, wife, and mother to heart. She supported Dick as he worked hard to provide for his family, always making sure the house he came home to was beautiful and clean, and they could enjoy their kids, friends, and hobbies. Marty effortlessly hosted large dinner parties and always brought friends and family together around a splendid table with wonderful food. Dinner, cocktail, and pool parties were filled with her vivacious laughter and her true enjoyment of all her friends. Most of all she loved her family. She doted over Dan and Sarah, Betsy and Bret, and her grandchildren, always putting them first and making sure they were happy and well cared for.

Before losing her vision, Marty was an avid reader, loved to embroider, crochet and knit. She was a road warrior driving Dan and Betsy to their many hobbies, shopping and visiting her many friends. She loved to golf and was on ladies' golf leagues at the Inverness Country Club of Chelsea, and in Naples, Florida. She and Dick were also on bowling leagues. Throughout their marriage, she and Dick traveled to many places and loved going to Florida each winter, where she enjoyed many friendships.

Marty was well known for her feistiness and strength. This served her well when she started losing her vision and then lost the ability to drive at the early age of 50, never complaining or letting her disability define her. In 2013 she had a devastating stroke that changed her life as she knew it and required constant therapy and medical care of which

she rarely ever complained about. It is the family's wish that all remember Marty as she was before her stroke: a beautiful, kind-hearted, loving woman who cherished her family, friends, and life.

Marty is survived by her children, Daniel (Sarah) Kolander and Betsy (Bret) James; her grandchildren, Robert Kolander, Danielle Kolander, Sadie Kolander, Henry Kolander, Westin James, Kate James, and Jennifer Ferguson; great-grandchildren Alexandria and Hoyt; her siblings, David Fairbanks, Sue (Ed) Winkler, and Jane Wild. She is also survived by her other "sisters" Nancy and Katie who she had many laughs with; and her caregivers, Kim and Sue, for their kindness and care.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, December 29, 2018 at Christ Our King Lutheran Church, 3255 Saline Waterworks Road, Saline, at 1 PM. A memorial gathering will take place at 12 PM.

In lieu of flowers, and in appreciation of the wonderful care and kindness given by the staff, memorial donations can be made in Marty's name to Arbor Hospice, 2366 Oak Valley Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, or <https://www.arborhospice.org/donate/donation-form/>

Events

DEC **Memorial Gathering** 12:00PM - 01:00PM

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Christ Our King Lutheran Church

3255 Saline Waterworks Road, Saline, MI, US, 48176

DEC **Memorial Service** 01:00PM

29

Christ Our King Lutheran Church

3255 Saline Waterworks Road, Saline, MI, US, 48176

Comments



“ Aunt Mart you were my 2nd mom. Always there for me to talk to openly, giving me love and support. It was you I channeled whenever I was having a party or decorating something. You taught me the importance of lovely little details. I will cherish all the recipes you gave me and all the memories of the vacations in Florida when i was included.

Susan Wild - December 20, 2018 at 06:44 PM



“ Mary Hess lit a candle in memory of Martha "Marty" Kay Kolander



Mary Hess - December 20, 2018 at 03:30 PM



“ As a long time friend of both Dick and Marty Kolander I will miss their highly enjoyable personalities and sincere friendship. Rest in peace

philip roddy - December 18, 2018 at 10:40 AM



“ Golfed with Marty in the George Town Women's League for many years. She will be missed by all.

Pat VonHofe - December 19, 2018 at 07:10 AM



“ David Fairbanks purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Martha "Marty" Kay Kolander.



David Fairbanks - December 17, 2018 at 05:18 PM