



Janet M. Walmsley Cruikshank Karstedt

March 26, 1935 - July 18, 2015

March 26, 1935 July 18, 2015 Janet M. Walmsley Cruikshank Karstedt passed away July 18, 2015 after a short battle with pancreatic cancer. She was born March 26, 1935 in Nampa, Idaho to Dr. Harold and Lela Walmsley. As a girl she spent free time with her large extended family camping, fishing, and hiking. Her family was very involved in the Presbyterian church and she won awards reciting the catechism. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the College of Idaho in 1957 with a degree in Chemistry and BioChemistry before marrying Gary Cruikshank in August of 1957 and moving to Wendell, Idaho where she began her teaching career. They moved to Bend, Oregon in 1959 where she taught Chemistry, Biology and Math at Bend High School before a public firing over teaching evolution and the science of birth control. She was one of the first faculty members at COCC and was quite involved in community theatre. In the late 60s and early 70s, Janet was the chairman of the United Way in Bend before moving on to manage various political campaigns. They began their own family when first daughter Amy Ann arrived in 1960 and Marybeth in 1970. Her dedication to the community ran very deep as she helped to build the First Presbyterian Church, the Alyce Hatch Center, as well as belonging to the Lady Elks, PEO, the AAUW, and Eastern Star. She was very involved with the Toastmasters, Presbyterian Women, and was an active volunteer with the Des Chutes Historical Society. The 80s brought Janet to the Education Service District where she served until her retirement as the assistant superintendent, while also serving as Superintendent of Brothers

School. She rounded out her professional career as the business manager at the Sisters School District. She was very active in the OEA, OAEOP, and the OSBA as both a member and with leadership. Family was always important to Janet. She and Gary raised Amy and Marybeth in the Bend Schools. They traveled all over the Oregon countryside camping during the summer months as well as enjoying time at a summer home in the Columbia River Gorge. Janet also loved spending time with her five grand-daughters. Retirement brought Janet new adventures and new people in her life. She married Fred Karstedt in 2008 adding four more daughters, sons-in-law, and eight grandchildren to the family. They enjoyed taking cruises, spending time with friends and family, and participating in many groups, clubs, and committees at church. Janet was also a Red Hat. A celebration of life is planned at the First Presbyterian Church on August 15, 2015 at 11:00am with a garden party potluck to follow. Janet is survived by her six daughters, six sons-in-law, 12 grand-children, and 1 great-grandchild. She was preceded in death by her first husband Gary and her brother Frederick.

Funeral Home:

Niswonger-Reynolds Funeral Home New
105 NW Irving Ave
Bend, OR
US 97701

Tribute Wall

CK

“ Amy, Mary Beth and Fred, Janet was an awesome woman and a very good friend to me. Janet was my mentor and I owe a lot to her for believing in me. Unfortunately, I will not be able to make her Celebration of Life this Saturday but will be thinking of you guys as you remember your mother and how wonderful she impacted everyones lives. Caryl and Kelvin Kempfer

Caryl Kempfer - April 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM