



Jeanne Handwerker Brink

October 30, 1944 - April 27, 2019

JEANNE ELLEN HANDWERKER BRINK, age 74, of San Tan Valley, Arizona, formally of Memphis, Tennessee passed away on April 27, 2019 at Banner University Medical Center in Phoenix, Arizona after a short illness.

She is predeceased by her parents, Ruth Walker Handwerker and Howard Thiers Handwerker and her loving grandmother, Ruth Spillane Walker.

Jeanne is survived by her loving, devoted husband of 26 years, 9 months, 11 days and 21 hours, Conan Brink. Her 5 loving children, Joseph (Loretta) Dearman of Florissant, MO, Meg (Mike) Glesener of Shoreline, WA, Kim Dearman of Redmond, WA, Pam (Roger) Clugston of Bakersfield, CA and Andrew (Gazmira) Stevens of Ashburn, VA. 17 Grandchildren, 4 Great-Grandchildren. 4 Siblings, Dan Handwerker, Elaine Lewis, Nancy Gebhardt all of Memphis and Carol Handwerker of West Lafayette, IN plus many nieces and nephews.

Jeanne would like it to be known that her name is one syllable, not Jeannie, Jeanine, or Jee-anne. She would also like it to be known that mashed potatoes should be firm; served in a bowl, with a well of gravy in the middle; and eaten with a spoon. She would also like everyone to know that smoking kills, and that if you, reader, are a smoker, you need to quit now.

She was a book-reading, basketball-palming, Words-with-Friends-playing, Pokemon-training, picture-taking, chip-eating, mug-making, book-reading, grammar-correcting, tree-hugging, generously giving, game-loving mother who was extremely passionate about her family.

She was the kind of doting mother who would take the family out for a birthday dinner of donuts (because that's what the birthday boy wanted for dinner), followed by dessert of pizza (because that was his choice too).

She had a deep love of music, and of particular artists such as John Denver and Peter, Paul, and Mary.

And her singing to and with the kids is a cherished part of their life. Car rides were an opportunity for the family to sing together.

Her career covered a wide variety of roles. Here are some of them:

bank reconciliation, piping estimation, chemistry lab work, yellow-page advertising sales, her own word processing and medical transcription business, coordinating the SysOps (community managers) for one of the first major online game communities, and freelance book editing.

Over the last two years, she gave out about fifty basketballs to the neighborhood kids, asking each one to sign the ball with a sharpie and to find a way to pay the gift forward to someone else.

She was always free with sharing her food and her home.

She always wanted to share with her kids and grandkids and to help them be better people. For Christmas, she would give the grandchildren money and task them with finding a need that someone else had, and meeting it with half of the money.

She was a life master at bridge.

She nearly achieved the world record for Ms. Pac-Man in the 1980s.

She left three 5-7-10 splits in a single bowling game, which would have been a world record if she had known to have it recorded at the time.

There will be a visitation at Canale Funeral Directors in Memphis from 5pm to 7pm on May 17. Funeral mass will be at St. Therese Little Flower Catholic Church at 10am on May 18.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The family would like to thank the expertly skilled and loving and caring surgeons, ICU doctors, nurses, and staff at Banner University Medical Center Phoenix

Cemetery

Events

Calvary Cemetery

1663 Elvis Presley Blvd
Memphis, TN, 38106

MAY

17

Visitation

05:00PM - 07:00PM

Canale Funeral Directors

2700 Union Avenue Extended, Memphis, TN, US, 38112

MAY

18

Funeral Mass

10:00AM

St. Therese Little Flower Catholic Church

1644 Jackson Avenue, Memphis, TN, US, 38107

Comments



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Jeanne Handwerker Brink.



May 15 at 11:16 AM



“ Jeanne was an awesome lady and friend for over 16 years. She was a kind, generous and funny lady. She made me laugh. She made me think. She made me care. I already miss her so much. She was a treasure. A true Sister of the Heart.

Susan Sheffield - May 04 at 06:25 PM



“ It is with Deepest Sympathy that I write to offer condolences. Jeanne was a special person and I was blessed to call her my friend. So funny, intelligent, kind and generous, the world is a darker place without her in it. A donation has been made in Jeanne's name to St Jude Children's Hospital. She and her loved one's are in my thoughts and prayers. Aileen Belcastro (Her Sister of the Heart)

Aileen Belcastro - May 04 at 04:58 PM