



DonnaRae Julie Knop

May 10, 2020

DonnaRae Julia (Janzen) Knop, November 10, 1944 - May 10, 2020

DonnaRae Knop, 75, of Whitefish Bay, WI passed away on May 10, 2020. DonnaRae was born in Sparta, WI and was the daughter of the late Melvin and JuliaAnn (Helgeson) Janzen. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Michael, their children Mark and Pam of Lancaster, MA, Kerri (Mich) and Gregg of Albuquerque, NM, and Greg and Tracy of Thorp, WI, and proud grandmother of Michael and John, Ian and Elliot, and Sadie and Lincoln. DonnaRae is also survived by her siblings Jay, Kie (Kathy) and Roy (Liz), in-laws Phyllis (Gordon, dec) and Allen (Linda), and their families.

DonnaRae loved to travel near and far, most notably highlighted by a family road trip to Alaska in 1982, 50th Anniversary trip to Hawaii in 2017 and annual trips to visit each of her grandchildren on their birthdays. She never minded "taking the scenic route" as long as Dad & her knitting were beside her.

Generous of both time & spirit among strangers & friends, she was dedicated to volunteer work with the the Girl Scouts, Bay Shore Lutheran Church (altar guild and quilting group), the Audubon Society and the Wisconsin Unit of the National Herb Society.

DonnaRae was a wizard in any kitchen, but particularly a Dutch oven over a

campfire; she made bread, cakes, cobblers, and an amazing beef burgundy, the envy of the campground. The family also became known as rainmakers as setting up the family campsite was a sure sign of rain.

DonnaRae enjoyed many creative hobbies including cooking, quilting, calligraphy, knitting, crocheting, sewing, stamping, reading, bird & wildlife watching and had a very green thumb. She had the largest cookbook collection imaginable, usually using a recipe as a guide before putting the "DR flair" on the final creation. DonnaRae cherished time spent with her extended family and many friends, visiting as often as she could, always making time to share warm memories and welcomed new memories with an open heart.

A memorial service to celebrate DonnaRae's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations should be made to a Food Bank of your choice, as the best way to honor DonnaRae is to feed a family.