



Joanne Smirl "Jo"

December 9, 2014

(nee Plotkin) died unexpectedly on December 9th, 2014. She passed peacefully with her family by her side. Beloved mother, grandmother and good friend to many, Jo was a native of Whitefish Bay, Wisconsin. She attended Whitefish Bay High School and continued her studies to receive a Bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana. Jo dedicated her professional life to the State of Wisconsin for over 35 years. Working tirelessly she advocated for juveniles and immersed herself in special needs adoption. Jo had many passions in life, not the least of which was her love of jazz music. She served on the board of Jazz Unlimited and was a generous supporter of the arts in the Milwaukee community. Jo was never one to sit still. In her retirement, she gave her time and talents to various organizations. She loved ushering at the Pabst Theater, volunteering for Traveler's Aid, Visit Milwaukee and Shoo-The-Flu to name a few. Jo's love of travel took her around the country and the world. She enjoyed playing bridge, attending the theater, dining out and spending time with her children, grandchildren and countless friends. Daughter of the late Martin and Edythe (Plotkin) Puckert. Dear mother of Steven (Mardi) Smirl of Nashotah, Wisconsin, Stacy (Michael) Barnett of Sudbury, Massachusetts and Tamar Smirl of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Loving grandmother of Madison and Sydney Barnett; Jeremy and Gabriella Smirl. Cherished friend of Karl Schoendorf of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Further survived by other loving relatives and dear friends. In lieu of flowers, donations in memory of Jo may be made to Planned

Parenthood or The American Cancer Society. She often said, ""You'll miss me when I'm gone"", and as usual she was right. Service & Reception InfoThe Celebration of Life will be held on Sunday, December 14, from 1-4:00 PM with a Memorial Ceremony at 2:00 PM at Northshore Funeral Services.