



Denise Noreen Rieke

July 7, 1953 - September 7, 2024

Rieke, Denise Noreen (Denny), age 71, of Minnetonka, passed away Sept. 7, 2024. Preceded in death by her parents, Clint and Rose Gordon, and brother, Scott Gordon. Survived by her husband, John Rieke; children Peter (Elise) Rieke, Sarah Rieke, Stephen Rieke, and Leah (Darin) Debronsky; grandchildren Alethea Rieke, Lydia Rieke, Lillianna Rieke, Caleb Rieke, Ella Rieke and Jack Debronsky; sisters Jan (Dan) Matthews and Lynn (Evan) Weisdepp; sister-in-law Jane Gordon; and many nieces and nephews. Denny was born in Seattle, Washington, attended Shorecrest High School, and graduated from Washington State University with a degree in education. In 1975 she moved to Minnesota, where she met John in 1976, and they were married on February 3, 1979. After a period of teaching science in private schools, in 1980 she began working near New Life Family Services, who provide foster care and adoption. After learning about their services, Denny and John fostered infants and teenagers in their home. In the following years, they adopted their four children. Denny went on to homeschool her children until high school age and continued her love of education by tutoring students at home. Denny was a member of Wooddale Church in Eden Prairie, where she served in the Woods Kids children's ministry and belonged to the Wooddale Quilters group. An accomplished quilter, she completed more than 100 beautiful quilts for family, friends, and community groups. Denny's warm and vibrant personality, enthusiasm for life, and love of storytelling and laughter were a blessing to all who knew her. Funeral service Thursday, Sept.

26 at 11:00 AM at Wooddale Church, 6630 Shady Oak Road, Eden Prairie.
Reception immediately following at the church. Memorials preferred to
Wooddale Church or New Life Family Services.

"Funeral service can be live-streamed at wooddale.org/events"

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

SEP **26.** 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Wooddale Church
6630 Shady Oak Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Justin, Katie, Madelyn, Evan, and Kenzie purchased the *Enchanted Cottage* for the family of Denise Noreen Rieke.



Justin, Katie, Madelyn, Evan, and Kenzie - September 25, 2024 at 10:26 AM

JK

“ Justin, Katie, Madelyn, Evan, and Kenzie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Denise Noreen Rieke.

Justin, Katie, Madelyn, Evan, and Kenzie - September 25, 2024 at 10:26 AM



“ *Days of Sunshine Bouquet* was purchased for the family of Denise Noreen Rieke.



September 23, 2024 at 09:28 PM