



Johnelle Foley Snyder

July 11, 1949 - October 25, 2018

Johnelle Foley Snyder passed away on October 25, 2018, in Amelia Island, Florida. She was born on July 11, 1949, in Minneapolis, Minnesota to her wonderful parents, John and Irma Foley. She grew up in Edina, Minnesota and attended Our Lady of Grace Grade School and St. Margaret's Academy High School. Johnelle received her undergraduate degree from Barat College of the Sacred Heart in Lake Forest, Illinois and obtained her Master's Degree in Health Care Administration from the University of Minnesota. In her graduate school class, Johnelle was one of three women to be the first women accepted into this program. Prior to this class, female students had been nuns affiliated with Catholic hospitals.

Johnelle's professional career included serving as Associate Administrator of University of Minnesota Hospitals and Clinics and as the Executive Director of the Minnesota Association of Public Teaching Hospitals. She authored several published articles on subjects involving teaching hospitals and served on a variety of Boards including The Women's Health Leadership Trust, The Downtown Minneapolis (#9) Rotary Club, Norwest Bank-Central Ave, Lafayette Country Club, the Minneapolis Chapter of the MS Society, the Medical Alley Association, and the Alumni Association of the University of Minnesota School of Public Health. Johnelle retired in 1995. In her leisure time Johnelle loved boating on Lake Minnetonka and downhill skiing anywhere in the world but especially in Vail, CO, where she "sabbaticaled" for

a year following graduate school. Once introduced to golf she loved her family of friends at Edina Country Club. Johnelle also had a “fun career” doing runway modeling for many of the fine stores and boutiques in the Twin Cities. In 1972, she represented Minnesota in the Miss USA World Pageant in Newport News, VA placing fourth.

Mrs. Snyder was first preceded in death by her husband Dennis A. Bowman Esq. in 1997. In 2014, she lost her second loving husband, Gary L. Snyder. Gary and Johnelle met in a Grief Support Group having both lost their spouses to cancer. In 2004, Gary and Johnelle moved from Minneapolis to Amelia Island, Florida. Together they enjoyed their many friends on the island and became involved in such activities as The Golf Club of Amelia Island, The Rotary Club of Fernandina Beach, St. Michael Catholic Church, The Amelia Island Museum of History, Micah’s Place and Amelia Residents in Support of the Symphony. Their love of the performing arts prompted the Snyder’s to be actively involved in the funding for the construction of the new venue for the Amelia Community Theatre (ACT). Similarly, in Minneapolis, they were major donors contributing to the building of the world-renowned Guthrie Theatre. In 2012, Gary and Johnelle were instrumental in founding the Amelia Island Chapter of the Chaine des Rotisseurs, an international gastronomic society first established in 1248 in Paris. On January 27, 2018, Johnelle was awarded the Chaine Star of Excellence for distinguished service to the Bailliage of Amelia Island. The Snyders loved each other deeply and adored doing everything together. Their special shared passion was travel and that passion took them literally everywhere in the world. They knew they were blessed to have each other. They loved life, family and friends and truly cherished each day they had together.

Survivors include Johnelle’s sister Mary Lee Stephenson and her children, Colleen Upton, Kevin (Diane) Healy, and Michael Healy and their children, Aidan, Molly, Megan, Matthew, Jack and Sean, all of Minneapolis. She is also

survived by step-daughter, Shelly (Tom) Halverson of Maple Grove, MN and their sons Andrew (Emily) of Minneapolis and Aaron of Plymouth, MN. Mass of Christian Burial was held at St. Michael's Catholic Church on Amelia Island. A service of Prayer and Remembrance will be held in Minneapolis at Lakewood's Memorial Chapel on Saturday, November 17, 2018, at 12:00 Noon with lunch to follow. Johnelle Foley Snyder will be entombed in the Lakewood Mausoleum, next to Gary. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Community Hospice and Palliative Care Center of Northeast Florida, 4266 Sunbeam Road, Jacksonville, FL 32257.

Cemetery Details

Lakewood Cemetery (Minneapolis)

3600 Hennepin Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Tribute Wall



“ Dear Foley & Snyder Families-- We were shocked to hear of the passing of Johnelle. During her early year of work in MN. I/we met Johnelle at the Womens Health Leadership Trust. Four of us had similar objectives in wanting to start a business. The four of us formed the BAG (Business Action Group). We had more fun when we met for our meeting over lunch!!! And the stories go on!! I would love to talk to a family member to hear more about Johnelle. Wishing the family comfort, healing and peace. Julie Eszlinger Jensen



Julie Eszlinger Jensen - November 16, 2018 at 10:41 AM