



Lou Ella Branham

July 22, 2017

Branham, Lou Ella age 74, of New Brighton. Passed away July 22nd, 2017 in Door County, WI. Preceded in death by parents. Survived by devoted husband of 54 years, Gerald Branham; son, Craig (Ellen) Branham; daughter, Leslie (Jeff) Branham; brother, Bob Hitz; grandchildren, Hannah Paulsen and Brian Paulsen; and many friends old and new. Lou grew up in east St. Paul playing amateur sports, and became a lifelong sports fan. Following her father's athletic passion, decades before Title IX, Lou considered herself an athlete first and foremost, having pursued baseball, softball, golf, and bowling. She played and taught both tennis and racquetball. She was an avid cyclist and camper, pursuing these passions from youth until the day of her passing. She met husband, Jerry as a U of MN student, on the bus to the Rose Bowl in 1962, embarking on what would become decades of road trips together. They camped throughout the upper mid-west for years, and in retirement, they toured the country. Lou was always the eternal optimist and child at heart, known for her loud laugh, love of children and animals, and zest for living life on her own terms. She was always caring of children and animals, loving to spoil and indulge them: she never denied a child a treat, a dog a biscuit, or a backyard squirrel a free meal. Memorial service 11:00 AM Friday, July 28 at Mount Olivet Lutheran Church, 5025 Knox Ave. S., Mpls, MN 55419. Visitation one hour prior. Memorials preferred to Minnesota Public Radio or Minnesota Humane Society. Washburn-McReavy.com New Brighton Chapel 651-636-9821