



Sondra Joyce Arntsen

October 8, 1942 - August 1, 2020

Sondra Joyce Arntsen (nee Knee, formerly Kelm)

10/8/1942 ~ 8/1/2020

Sondra Joyce Arntsen passed away from cancer on August 1, 2020. She was born in Pendleton, Oregon on October 8, 1942 to Rev. Leslie Benjamin Knee & Helen Maxine Swartz Knee. She became the oldest of six children and grew up in a home with lots of pranks, laughter, popcorn, and “dough stix”! In 1961, she married Kenneth Kelm, and they had three children. They lived in multiple places including Indiana, Washington, Minnesota, and South Carolina. After divorcing in 1987 and several years of singleness, Sondra found the love of her life, Daniel Arntsen. They married in October 1995 and shared almost 25 years together, enjoying their lake home in Pine City, Minnesota and as much time as possible with all their collective grandchildren.

Sondra played the piano, loved hymns, and loved children. She taught Sunday School in her earlier years and also enjoyed teaching her own children and grandchildren about Jesus. She made the best mint brownies,

and all the grandchildren have memories of making “dough stix” with Grandma and Grandpa.

As she fiercely and stubbornly fought breast cancer for over 10 years, her love, Dan, walked faithfully beside her, devoting his entire time and energy to caring for her. They played countless games, watched their favorite shows and Hallmark movies, and spent hours enjoying the many birds, wildlife, and change of seasons from their back deck and kitchen window.

She always believed that God knew the number of her days and would take her when HE decided, not when cancer decided. We know she is at peace and pain-free with Jesus now, and we celebrate her home-going, along with the bittersweet sadness of letting her go.

Sondra was preceded in death by her father, mother, and step-father W. David Lundgren. She is survived by husband Daniel Gradin Arntsen; children Skyler Kelm (Kristy), Misty Kodama (Mitsu), and Dustin Kelm (Katie); step-children Dawn van Hees (Brent), Daniel Arntsen II (Tricia), and Darcy Stafsholt (fiancé Scott); grandchildren Layne (Autumn), Cory, Sierra (Joz), Alex, Mackenzie, Jake, Taylor, Madison, Samuel, Hanna, and Anthony; and great-grandchildren Aubriana and Aurora. She is also survived by siblings Stanley Knee, Lark d’Helen (Joyce), Edmund Knee (Judy), Steven Knee (Teri), Deborah Baxter, and many nieces and nephews.

A private graveside service was held on August 6th. A Celebration of Life service will be held on September 12th, 2020 at 11:00am at Pine City Evangelical Free Church in Pine City, MN for all family and friends, followed by a family luncheon. (Due to COVID-19, masks will be required during the indoor service.)

Cemetery Details

Hillside Crematory

2610 19th Ave NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418

Previous Events

Graveside Service

AUG 6. 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (CT)

Hillside Cemetery
2600 19th Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418
(612) 781-3391
info@washburn-mcreavy.com

Tribute Wall

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“ *We will always remember her smile and laugh. Loved seeing her and Dan walking holding hands. She was a very special lady and loved her family with her whole being. Rest in Peace, Sondra. Tom & Judi van Hees and family*



tom & Judi van Hees - August 28, 2020 at 08:02 AM