



Susan Rae Spray

March 22, 1953 - December 5, 2022

Susan R Spray, age 69, of Mpls passed away suddenly at her home December 5, 2022. Loving mother, sister, aunt and friend to many. Susan is preceded in death by parents, Raymond L. Spray and Doris (Allen) Spray; and husband, Daniel Lee. She is survived by her children, Edward Lee, Anne Lee, and Jane Fischer (Graham), all of Mpls; brother, Scott (Debbie) Spray of Coppell TX; sister, Sandra Spray-Kerr (Paul Kerr) of Mound, MN; several nieces and nephews; friend, Jonathan; and dog, Louie.

Susan, a lifelong learner, loved the arts. She participated in many venues and experiences. She achieved her PhD in Ed later in life from the U of St. Thomas (2018). Her dissertation has been downloaded over 200 times. She graduated from NUHS in Cedar Falls, IA in 1971 and recently organized its 50th reunion. She attended the U of Northern Iowa achieving her BA and teaching license. She earned a MBA while living in Iowa City from the U of Iowa, a MA from the U of St. Thomas in Psychology followed by her PhD.

Susan filled her home with treasures and special pieces including her own works and her children's work. She liked to be known as a writer, having worked for non-profits in grant writing capacities; Urban Ventures, U of St. Thomas Director, Corporate and Foundation Relations, and Assistant Dean for Development at the University of Illinois. Early in her career, she worked for Rev. Jesse Jackson and the PUSH coalition as a writer. She met and

married her husband Dan in 1984 while living in Chicago.

While in Mpls, she volunteered endless hours at a variety of venues, as a tour guide at the Walker, Art Cart volunteer at Mia, 6 Points Theatre and believed in the underdog, literally adopting dogs that were in need. She was the ultimate gift giver. She was humble and reserved with a love for nature and caring for the earth. She was a fierce survivor and hard worker who showed her love for others through actions. At the time of her death, she had calendar dates for ushering at the Ordway and several sets of tickets for upcoming shows and events in the city. Of course, she enjoyed working at Macy's where she bought treasures.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in memory of our loved one to the Guthrie Theater, 818 S 22nd St, Minneapolis, MN 55415. You may donate online or send checks made out to the Guthrie Theater Foundation, and include a note that it is in memory of Susan. Donations in Susan's name may also be made out to Children's Cancer Research at <https://childrenscancer.org>.

Memorial service to be held on Wednesday, December 14th at 11 AM at Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel, 5000 West 50th &, MN-100, Edina, MN 55436. Visitation one hour prior.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **14**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Memorial Service

DEC **14**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Edina Chapel
5000 West 50th & Highway 100
Edina, MN 55436

Tribute Wall

KB

“ Susan was a beloved mentor and friend. Her unwavering support and commitment to helping others was truly admirable. And she was absolutely brilliant. My condolences to her family.

Katie Berggren

Katherine Berggren - January 06, 2023 at 08:06 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Susan Rae Spray.



December 14, 2022 at 01:57 PM

RW

“ My sincere sympathy to all who knew and loved Susan. She was amazing, kind, gifted and brilliant! We were planning to attend our annual New Standards Concert and the Arrow Awards this year, but I needed to cancel because of illness. I was shocked and saddened by her sudden passing. We became friends during the time we worked together at the University of St. Thomas and remained friends through our subsequent transitions. I was always impressed by her sense of style, her humility and generosity. I am so very sorry for your loss. She was so very proud of her children. The world is a bit dimmer with her passing.



Rachel Wobschall - December 14, 2022 at 12:58 PM

PW

“ Susan was my dear friend thru grade school and high school. Later in life we connected while both living in the Twin Cities. We enjoyed great times at art and theater events while sipping Starbucks coffee. Yearly drives to Iowa for NUHS reunions were so important. Life well lived Susan- now in God's hands, at peace.
Pam Wenndt

Pam Wenndt - December 12, 2022 at 08:34 PM

NH

“ Nancy L. Howes purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Susan Rae Spray.



Nancy L. Howes - December 12, 2022 at 07:31 PM

RS

“ I too, went to NUHS & was in the class of 1970. I knew Sue as a bubbly, happy smart girl. I am so impressed by the woman she became & I envy the experiences she had. A full, productive life over too soon. Rest in peace Sue.

Renée Kouri Schultz

Renee Schultz - December 11, 2022 at 10:37 PM

JD

“ Susan was in the NUHS class below me, along with my wife LeAnne. She was among the many bright, talented and (most importantly to us immature boys of the class of '70) pretty girls in that class. I know her only from those days, but even then, she possessed a level of depth and sophistication that set her apart. Reading her obit confirms the rich life she led and the love she shared, I regret I did not know the person she became, but I'm glad I met that pretty girl that was so much more, many years ago. Deepest sympathies and warm wishes to her family and friends from LeAnne and I.

Jim Dreier - December 11, 2022 at 12:45 AM

FB

“ I am so sorry to learn of Susan's passing. We met through the Walker and I always enjoyed talking with her so much. She will surely be missed by many.

Florence Brammer - December 11, 2022 at 12:12 AM

PT

“ Susan was a visionary .
Her Midwestern upbringing did not define her
Existence .
She was a 'wonder woman ' , behind her years .
I knew Susan as a teenager ,
She burner a blaze of a path , and apologized for nothing .
Her mind was was stars wars ahead of time .
She is Astro tripping in the galaxies , she is fine.
Susan Ray Spray
Life well lived !

pamela Taylor - December 09, 2022 at 09:18 PM



You nailed her Pam. A Wonder Woman who I knew as a grade-schooler. I have nothing but positive memories of our days in Cedar Falls. Onward!

Chrys Anklam (Porsow) - December 10, 2022 at 08:45 AM



My condolences to Sue's family. She was a very special and gifted woman. I just saw her at the reunion this summer. So shocked to hear this. Sending love to her loved ones. ❤️!

Linda Hills Wright - December 10, 2022 at 01:33 PM



“ Days of Sunshine Bouquet was purchased for the family of Susan Rae Spray.



December 09, 2022 at 04:14 PM