



Margaret May Kulhanjian

APR 23, 1927 - SEP 9, 2018



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Margaret's parents, George and Bessie Johnson, started her on violin lessons at an early age. When she grew big enough, Margaret graduated to the cello. Margaret's whole life revolved around music and she became an accomplished sought after musician. At Sturges Junior High School, 12 year old, Margaret was invited to play with the San Bernardino High School Orchestra. Margaret played a myriad of venues and competed vigorously in the many state and inter-state Band and Orchestra competitions of the time. Upon graduation from High School, Margaret attended Occidental College which hosted a three week music camp where Margaret was the leader in a cello group of five. Margaret dreamed that one day she would have a musical career. A handsome young "Navy" man, Thomas E. Dumser, caught Margaret's eye and she set aside her musical dreams to be married. A little more than a year later, their only child, Andrea Leah, was born September 18th, 1948. Tom received orders that he was to be stationed in San Diego. Upon arriving, Margaret loved San Diego. She always said that there wasn't any other place she'd rather be than in San Diego. Sometime later the little Navy family was transferred to Albuquerque, New Mexico. A rather odd place for a Navy family. Later, after her divorce from Tom, she bypassed San Bernardino and came straight back to San Diego to live. Margaret met Leonard and a romance ensued. Soon they were married on April 30th, 1958 and, of course, they settled in San Diego, raising "Andi" in the town Margaret loved so much. Margaret held a number of clerical positions over the years but Margaret's favorite job was selling tickets at the local Guild Theater in Hillcrest. The antics of the Art Film public provided many curious and humorous stories. Margaret's love of music persisted throughout her life. Although classically trained, Mom's appreciation always included the popular songs of the day. Mom developed a particular liking for the Rolling Stones. She was hooked the first time she heard "Satisfaction". Margaret attended their concerts every time they came to



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town. Often, Margaret went to these concerts by herself, taking the bus to the concert and home again. She always brought a t-shirt. In fact, she requested that she be buried in one. She has it on now, under the prim and proper suit. Margaret got a big kick out of watching Mick Jagger “strut his stuff” on stage. Leonard and Margaret share a love of reading and, since retirement, they spent many enjoyable hours in each other’s company, reading. Leonard loves historical fictions while Margaret couldn’t put down a great “who done it”. Leonard and Margaret were made for each other and have lived happily in San Diego for the last 60 years. Margaret is survived by her husband, Leonard, her daughter, Andrea Dreadin, two grandchildren, Darcy Paschall and James Paschall and two great grandchildren, Zachary Robertson and Jade Paschall. We will all miss your smile, humor and tactful mediation. You were the person I looked up to because you always did the right thing. I could count on you. You were the best Mom for me, who cares that you couldn’t cook. When I was so sick as a young mother, you dropped everything and stayed at my house for months on end while I fought for my life in the hospital. I never worried about the house or the kids the entire time. Thank you. I love you. -Andi



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DA

Darcy posted:

I have always loved u more than anything in my world. U r the true love of my life. Your forever and ever granddaughter Darcy

September 21 at 6:33 AM

RM

Ross Maier posted:

Margaret, you will always be that warm friendly smile that greeted me and welcome me into your family. Your intellect, sense of humor and that truthfull heartfelt compassion that you shared with all of us. Your smile will be missed, but not forgotten. Always Loved ...Ross

September 16 at 7:57 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Margaret by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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