



Karen Irene Haggard

January 23, 1942 - May 5, 2016

Karen Haggard, 74, passed away suddenly on Thursday, while in the hospital recovering from her recent heart surgery. She was a resident of Samaritan Village in Corvallis, Oregon.

She was the second of three children, born in Seattle, Washington on January 23, 1942 to Charles Knight and Katherine (Johnson) Knight. She married John Haggard on March 27, 1963, in Crescent City, California. In 1972 she moved to Grants Pass, Oregon. Her husband passed away in Grants Pass in 2004, and she remained there until 2013, when she moved to Corvallis, Oregon. Karen was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, and her sister Janet.

She leaves behind her younger sister, Norma; daughters Stephanie Rouse of Corvallis and Angela Taylor of Grants Pass; and grandchildren Kristin Taylor and Kelsey Taylor, both of Portland, Danica Taylor of Eugene, and Tabitha Taylor of Canyon, Texas.

She was a lively character and a great storyteller who made friends easily. She also had a deep faith and was dedicated to her Lutheran communities in both Grants Pass and Corvallis. She was generous with her time, helping friends and neighbors, and volunteering with her retirement village community and her church communities.

Family, friends, and others whose lives Karen touched are invited to her memorial service at Grace Lutheran Church, 435 NW 21st St, Corvallis, Oregon, at 2:00 pm on Saturday, May 21st.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations may be made to Luther House at 211 NW 23rd St. Corvallis, OR 97330 (<http://www.luther-house.org/donate>), or to the Samaritan Village Bus Fund at 285 NW 35th St, Corvallis, OR 97330.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 21. 2:00 PM (PT)

Grace Lutheran Church
435 NW 21st St
Corvallis, OR 97330

Tribute Wall

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“ My sister Karen was an unworried, happy-go-lucky kid. She had an uninhibited outgoing friendliness and impulsive spontaneity. Her basic happy outlook would not let anything keep her down for long. Her irrepressible upbeat outlook would soon resurface along with her jovial good-natured sense of humor.

One of her prominent qualities was her generous big heart. I remember how she was so enthusiastically generous with her time, often making personal home-made gifts for me and others, and just loving doing it!

In counterbalance to her naturally warm and spontaneous nature, she revealed in her teen and adult years, a tough inner strength with an admirable capacity to remain calm and steady in difficult emotional situations.

Thank you Karen, for looking out for your spacey and gullible little sis while we were kids and out doing things together in the big outside world. (She was 3.5 years older than me and 4 grades ahead in school.) And also, later as a teen, for your subtle warnings, hints and tips about certain things to expect and look out for in my teen years ahead.

Sweet Memories:

We shared the same bed as little kids, and I remember how we used to take turns drawing shapes and alphabet letters on each others' backs to help each other get drowsy and fall asleep.

We had a Great Adventure at the riding stable when she was in the 9th grade and I in the 5th (mom had given us the money and trusted us to be careful). The horse I was given could tell I had no control of the reigns and took off like lightening for the horizon, and with me bouncing on top the horse crashed into barbed wire fence, tossing me over. Luckily I was unhurt, and as I got up I could see Karen

trotting up with a look of terror. When she saw I was OK her face melted with relief. Neither of us wanted to keep riding, so we got our money back and trudged back home. On the way home she kept looking sideways at me and hugging me; I felt so comforted, and I could see love and relief in her eyes. Because I was unhurt we decided to keep this our secret, and never share it with our mother.

When we were able to get together as adults (I live in California, SF Bay Area) , I remember how she would occasionally throw an arm around my shoulder, and give me that knowing big sister smile and hug.

I remember her reaching over and squeezing my hand to help me get through our mother's funeral.

I remember us planting spring bulbs together on our mother's grave in Grants Pass, and how she came back frequently to keep them watered and flourishing, and then sent me pictures of them in full bloom.

Norma (Karen's younger sister) - May 23, 2016 at 01:43 PM

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“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Norma Fox (younger sister) - May 22, 2016 at 07:57 PM

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“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Norma Fox (younger sister) - May 22, 2016 at 07:51 PM



“ The whole happy family visiting Aunt Connie (our mom's older sister) and Uncle Bill. (1947?).



Norma Fox - May 22, 2016 at 06:14 PM