



Susan D. Downer

March 30, 1946 - November 15, 2017

Susan passed away unexpectedly on Wednesday, November 15 in Corvallis.

Susan was born in Portland, Oregon to Emmett and Louise Vickers. She was the youngest of four children. Her family moved to Coos Bay, Oregon when she was 5. She graduated from Marshfield High School in 1964.

Susan was very active in high school as a member of the rally squad, sang in the choir and was the secretary of her senior class. Outside of school she was a member of Jobs Daughters where she rose through the ranks to the position of Queen. She also found time for tap dancing and ballet. Her love of dancing spilled over to participating at the Runeberg Hall where traditional Scandanavian dances were taught. Little did she know this is where she would meet her future husband when in the 7th grade. Later, when a sophomore in high school, she started dating Ken Downer and they became high school sweethearts, eventually marrying in 1964. This relationship lasted 53 years until her death.

Susan worked in several different occupations; as a secretary at Oregon State University, as a legal secretary, and finally as executive administrative assistant at Hewlett Packard. She retired from HP in 2002.

Retirement allowed Susan to pursue her personal interests. She enjoyed

decorating her house and yard around special days and holidays. She also enjoyed traveling and RVing with her husband Ken. She continued her love of dancing by taking classes in line dancing and Zumba. She was an excellent cook and loved to entertain.

Susan was preceded in death by her parents, brother James Vickers and sister Dorothy Leply. Surviving her are husband Ken of Corvallis, son Brian of Albany, brother-in-law Jerol (Shirley) of Gig Harbor, WA, sister Anne (Duane) Anderson of Tualatin, and numerous nieces and nephews.

A celebration of life will be held at 2:00 PM on Saturday, January 20th at the Corvallis Country Club.

Tribute Wall

NH

“ Dear Ken, I was so sorry to read about Susan. She was a beautiful woman. Your memories of her and your experiences together are treasures to carry with you always. Take comfort in the fact that many people love you and are sending comforting thoughts to you.
Nancy Hathaway

Nancy Hathaway - November 28, 2017 at 12:31 AM

CO

“ Sorry to hear of Susan's passing.
We will miss Susan.
Ruth and Chuck

Charles O'Rourke - November 27, 2017 at 10:42 PM

RT

“ So sorry for your loss, Ken. I remember how lovingly you always spoke about Susan. The look on your face gave away how much she meant to you and how much you two enjoyed being together.
Take care. Rita Tyner

Rita Tyner - November 26, 2017 at 01:01 PM

JB

“ I'm so sorry for your loss Ken and Brian. Susan and I became friends in line dancing class. She was a very caring lady, and I will miss her. In my heart she will always be dancing alongside of me.
Jacque Barrington

Jacqueline Barrington - November 25, 2017 at 05:56 PM

BK

“ Ken and Brian,

My sincere condolences on the passing of Susan, wife and mother. I remember her so well from HP and seeing her at Timberhill.

Such a shock that she left us so soon. Will keep the both of you in thought and prayer as you find healing and comfort in knowing that you will see her again.

Sincerely,

Bob Keith



Bob Keith - November 24, 2017 at 09:30 PM

GA

“ Ken and Family,

So sorry to hear about Susan's passing. She was always very nice to my folks and myself. Always a Raider and Beaver believer! My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Greg Axe

Greg Axe - November 24, 2017 at 12:51 PM

KS

“ Dear Ken,

Jerry and I are saddened by your loss. Susie was such a delightful, friendly and creative person. We certainly admired her strength and kindness. You are in our prayers.

Kris and Jerry Stotz

Kris and Jerry Stotz - November 23, 2017 at 03:59 PM

TB

“ Ken - Susan was a great co-worker, friend and confidant. We are very sorry for your loss. You had a wonderful partner in life.

Todd and Susan Brown - November 21, 2017 at 04:14 PM

MB

“ Ken,
Nancy and I are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. Mike and Nancy Boom

Mike Boom - November 21, 2017 at 11:32 AM

SS

“ Ken and family:

We were very saddened at hearing of Susan's sudden passing. We hope you can take the time to heal by thinking of all the great times you had together. One of my favorite stories is of when you two were staying at Schaberg's Marana house and she took a picture of the bathroom and the mirror got her in the photo being less than fully dressed.

We stayed the next year in that bedroom/bath and were warned of taking photos!

Thinking of you,

Steve & June Swedberg

Steven Swedberg - November 21, 2017 at 09:44 AM

VT

“ Ken, I am so very sorry for your stunning loss. I wish you peace and healing which seems to come eventually, with enough time. Time which is very, very difficult.

I remember Susan so well from the 6th grade at Blossom Gulch School, as well as at numerous North Bend High School reunions for your and Ron's class of 1963.

Again, I am so sorry for your loss.

Vernell Torgensen

Vernell D Torgensen - November 19, 2017 at 01:20 PM

SW

I am very saddened to learn of Susan's death. We worked several years together at Hewlett Packard. We had a very close friendship for a long time. Blessings and peace to the family.

Sonja Webb. - November 21, 2017 at 10:47 AM

JS

“ Jenny Sullivan lit a candle in memory of Susan D. Downer



jenny sullivan - November 19, 2017 at 12:00 PM

JS

Susan always had a smile I will miss that.

jenny sullivan - November 19, 2017 at 12:02 PM

JC

She was a great cheer leader and a great classmate. Ken - so sorry and my thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. 😭❤️

John Calhoun - November 19, 2017 at 09:00 PM

KG

Hi, Ken. I just read about Susan in the Oregon Stater. My first knowledge of her death. I'm so sorry for your loss, and I'm glad I was able to visit with her at our 50th reunion. She was always a delight!

*Karen Nelson Gidley
MHS Class of 63'*



Karen Nelson Gidley - April 29, 2018 at 02:35 PM

DP

“ I didn't know Susan well, but I wanted to send my sympathy to you on her passing. Please know that I care.

*Sincerely,
Darlene Bundy Pearson
MHS Class of '64*

Darlene Pearson - November 19, 2017 at 10:34 AM