



G Joan "Joanne" Gregory

July 30, 1941 - June 20, 2023

Joan Hedlund Betts Gregory passed away on June 20th from ongoing health problems, just shy of her 82nd birthday. She was born in July of 1941 to Gladys and Carl Hedlund at the Old Thornton Hospital in Missoula, MT (now Community Hospital). She attended Bonner Grade School, Missoula County High School, and the University of Montana where she was an Alpha Phi. She went to work at the Northern Forest Fire Lab in Missoula where she met Russ Betts. They married, had two children, Derek and Shannon, and our best guess is they moved 13 times in 12 years for Russ' job. Some of the places they lived were Carson City, Estes Park, Rocky Mountain National Park, Grand Canyon, Klamath Falls, Bend, Pendleton, and Lakeview, OR. Joan always found a job after each move and worked for either the Forest Service, BLM, a bank, or a private company. Her final job was a contracting officer for the BLM in Portland and she retired in 2002 after 32 years of federal service. Among the honors she received for her outstanding contributions over the years was a Certificate of Merit as a Federal Employee of the Year Candidate in 1989 and a Certificate of Honor for Meritorious Service in 2002.

After her retirement Joan bought a home in beautiful Coeur d'Alene and a home on the Clark Fork River near Plains, MT which she shared with her beloved partner, Norm Anderson, formerly of Cut Bank, MT. They enjoyed many happy years together and especially loved traveling to Missoula to support their beloved Griz football team.

Joan is survived by Norm and his sons Mark, Cory and Erick and families; her

son Derek (Sherrie, children Tanner and Mackenzie); her daughter Shannon (Dan, children Rachel and Connor); her sister Carole (Bart, children Kristen and Trent and their families); step-daughter Melissa (Lauren and Aidan); sister-in-law Camille (Byron and family); cousin Jayme (Ted and family); and precious family in LaGrande, OR, Norway and Sweden. Russ Betts preceded her in death, as did her second husband Skip Gregory.

Joan had a lilting and exuberant joy about her. She loved to go out for a "bite to eat" at her favorite places. She loved to laugh and listen to music and dance. She had a never-ending smile, hug, kiss, "Cheers," or "Skol" for all those she met. She had wit and charm, and she always had something to say to everyone she met. She was a doer, even if the doing was weeding or picking up pine needles. She loved watching everything in nature around her. Her laughter, giggles, kisses, and commentary will truly be missed by her family, extended family, friends, neighbors, waiters, and caretakers, all of whom are practically family.

Tribute Wall



“ 0 file added to the tribute wall

Evergreen Memorial Gardens - July 03, 2025 at 04:38 PM

DG

“ We bought our home from Joanne. Here on Lazy River place. Joanne came back to visit a few times and we were thankful to hear she liked the changes we made. We stayed in touch for a few years and then lost touch. She was a very nice person and we speak of her often.

David and Pam Gulosh - February 24, 2025 at 12:00 AM

CS

“ So many fond memories we have of you, Joanne, and your wonderful happy face! Your smile was always so warm and contagious. We miss you a lot and our thoughts are with your family.

*Skål, from your family members in Sweden,
Ella, Maria & Carina with families
Sievert, Gunilla, Anna-Karin and Anders*

Carina Sörestam - July 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ So many memories of her when attending Bonner Grade School with her. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and may she rest in peace. Maybelle(Hill)Bonnet

Maybelle Bonnet(Hill) - July 06, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LN

“ We met Joanne and Norm in Coeur d'Alene at Mulligan's Rotisserie Grill. Our band performs there regularly, and we got to see them many times, and we grew to be very fond of both of them. Joanne was always full of joy, and her smile was contagious. She truly brought us joy!! We have really missed her and Norm since they moved. We all are so thankful that we met and had time with her and Norm.

We are praying for all her family and friends that loved her.

Lynn for T and Company

Lynn Nichols - July 06, 2023 at 12:00 AM

BE

“ A Warm condolences from
Rune and Eivor
Benny And Birgitta
Mallbacken. Sweden

Benny Edqvist - July 05, 2023 at 12:00 AM

IM

“ We are so grateful to have shared your joy and kind generosity Joan.

Thanks for everything! SKÅL to you forever

Fam Inger & Johnny Möller

Inger & Johnny Möller - July 04, 2023 at 12:00 AM

ST

“ I know many are wondering about a memorial service for Mom. We do not have plans set for that yet. We will post it here and put the word out to anyone interested when we have a plan.

Shannon Tracy - July 03, 2023 at 12:00 AM

ST

“Skol!” to a beautiful woman we will all miss dearly.

Shannon Tracy - July 03, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ We are deeply sorry for your loss ~ Evergreen Memorial Gardens Cemetery, Funeral Chapel and Crematory

A Memorial Tree was planted for G Joan "Joanne" Gregory - June 27, 2023 at 12:00 AM