



## Joan Darlene Porter

April 5, 1941 - June 13, 2024

Joan Darlene Porter (Fast) died on June 13, 2024 as a result of post-cancer surgery. Joan was born in Portland, Oregon on April 5, 1941 to Elvin and Verna Fast. She graduated from South Salem High School in 1959 and went on to earn a BA degree from Portland State University. Joan taught Language Arts at David Douglas and Rex Putnam High School and retired in 1993 after 31 years of teaching. Joan loved working with her students and colleagues and made the subject come alive with her energetic personality and creative lessons. Joan's love for people and her creative exuberance extended far beyond the classroom. She wore many hats. She was a creative writer and accomplished artist, excelling in design, calligraphy and sewing. She made many beautiful cloth art pieces and enjoyed giving them as gifts to her friends and family. Joan also excelled in the kitchen. She was a great cook, and she loved baking goodies for others. Joan was very athletic as well. She was a certified aerobics instructor and enjoyed both the physical workout and the personal connections she made teaching aerobics and also playing tennis. Joan's zest for life touched so many people over the years. She was always upbeat and positive, often referred to as "Mary Sunshine" by her friends. When her friends were asked to describe Joan, they said she was:- Very kind and supportive to all those around her- Thoughtful and considerate- Always thinking of others before herself- A generous giver- Welcoming- Multi-talented and creative- A very tough lady- A hard worker- Quick-witted and funny- A positive bundle of energy- Life of the party- Always a special friend- Devoted

(especially to Roger)- Dynamic- Sensitive- Strong and resilient- Always polished- Classy and smart One would think they described Wonder Woman! Think of all the lives Joan touched! She was such a kind and loving soul, and she will be missed by many. Joan is survived by her loving husband, Roger of 54 years; sister Judy (Jim Cornett); sister Carol Hagerman and brother Jerry Fast (Linda). Roger and Joan are known to Stafford and Laurie Mays as Coach Porter and Grandma Joan. A celebration of life is pending.

# Tribute Wall

JD

“ *Joan was a respected and loved colleague and friend. I will miss her. John Dupasquier RPHS*

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**John Dupasquier** - September 17, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JG

“ *My most sincere condolences to the family. As a freshman at David Douglas HS in 1961-62, Miss Joan Fast was a spring term student teacher, an elegant, beautiful, and captivating young woman in a tailored suit and matching high heels, a person and an image that inspired me and stayed with me through the rest of my HS and college years, and lead me to teach HS English myself for 30 rewarding and fun years in the Portland area. After retirement several years ago, I had the wonderful good fortune to meet with her in person again, at a celebration for her good friend, my cousin! These two special people had met and supported each other through their cancer journey. I was overjoyed to see her again, to be able to tell her that she had always been my career role model, and to thank her. She will always be in my heart. ❤️*

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**Jean Elyse (Giordano/Nemes) Gilbert** - August 10, 2024 at 12:00 AM

RP

“ *Our periodic ladies lunches through our retirement years were special times! We had many laughs, great conversations and good wine! So very glad that I had that time with Joan and the others. We will treasure the memories of those lunches,*

□□ *Rose Marie Perkin*

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**Rose Marie Perkin** - July 17, 2024 at 12:00 AM

AP

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

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**A Memorial Tree was planted for Joan Darlene Porter - June 20, 2024 at 12:00 AM**