



Marialice Irene Kesling

September 8, 1946 - February 22, 2025

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Marialice, 78, passed away peacefully at home on Saturday, Feb. 22, in Vancouver, WA with her loving family by her side. She was born in Phoenix, AZ, the eldest child of Gilbert and Lenora Sanders. She moved to Portland, OR., at the age of two and later graduated from Grant High School in 1964. She met the love of her life and her soulmate, Bill, at the Portland Rose Festival and they were married on Dec. 3, 1966. They moved to Vancouver in the summer of 1967 and had two children.

Marialice was a stay-at-home mother after becoming legally blind following the birth of her first child. She was an active member of the PTA, volunteered in the community and at her church while raising her children. After her children were grown, her and Bill became respite and then foster parents to many children for over 30 years before retiring. She was a Christian that was dedicated to her family and was known as a strong woman who overcame all challenges thrown her way. She loved crafts and canning along with many other interests and hobbies. Over the years she crocheted many blankets, sewed quilts and loved canning food; homemade jam and fudge were her specialties. Her family has many cherished creations that will always remind them of her talents. She genuinely enjoyed spending time with family and friends, taking many trips with Bill who drove their motorhome to beaches and campgrounds all over the Pacific NW and beyond.

She is survived by her son Lyn Kesling (Kirsten); daughter AnnMarie Dickson;

brother Rick Sanders (Gail); sister Marilyn Hurley and sister-in-law Sandy Sanders. Proud Nana to four grandchildren, Cooper & Brodie Dickson and Jax & Will Kesling. She is reunited with her loving husband, parents, siblings Butch, Bob & Louise Sanders, and two granddaughters, Erika & Jennifer Kesling.

Her funeral will be held on Saturday, March 8, at 10 a.m., Evergreen Memorial Gardens. The family asks donations are made to the American Cancer Society of America.

Tribute Wall

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“ My siblings and I had the honor of getting to call her Nana. From a very young age Nana took care of us while our parents worked. She called me her sunshine girl and my sister was her Barney girl. She loved quilting and sewing. She tried teaching me how to sew and we didn't get very far but my siblings and I still have the blankets she made us that we will cherish forever. I remember loving how decorated her house would be for the holidays. She would have a tree in almost every room for Christmas. Making Christmas cookies together one year when the weather got really bad. Nana making fresh cinnamon apple sauce and getting to have some when it was still warm. Love you Nana and I miss you very much.

Kendra Brady - June 03, 2025 at 12:00 AM

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

A Memorial Tree was planted for Marialice I. Kesling - February 25, 2025 at 12:00 AM