



## Mary Maudine Johnson Carlson

March 3, 1953 - November 28, 2023

It is with heavy hearts that we share the passing of Mary Maudine Johnson Carlson, a devoted wife, loving mother and adoring grandmother. After a courageous battle with brain cancer, she went home to the Lord on November 28, 2023, surrounded by her family and the love that they shared.

Mary was born on March 3, 1953, to A. Elliott and Eileen Johnson in Mount Vernon, WA. She had a wonderful childhood growing up in the beautiful Skagit Valley spending summers at Samish Island, driving a pea truck, and working in the tulip fields and in the fish cannery. She attended Mount Vernon High School, cultivating lifelong friendships and memories. The natural wonders of her hometown nurtured in her a passion for birds and flowers that would stay with her throughout her life. This was evident in the vibrant gardens she cultivated and in the bird feeders that adorned her yard. Mary's love for God's creation was a testament to her appreciation of the simple joys of life.

Following high school graduation, Mary attended Skagit Valley Community College for a year before transferring to Washington State University in Pullman where she was a proud member of Gamma Phi Beta Sorority. Some of Mary's favorite memories and most treasured friendships came from her years at WSU.

Mary's journey took an even more beautiful turn when she met the love of her life, Brad Carlson. Mary and Brad loved to share the story about how they met at a discotheque in Portland called Earthquake Ethel's. They were engaged within four months and then married two months later. Their response to

everyone's surprise about the short courtship was always, "When you know, you know." They shared a 45-year marriage that was not only enduring but also a source of inspiration for those fortunate enough to witness their bond. Together, they navigated the joys and challenges of life hand in hand, creating a home filled with love, laughter, and the warmth of shared experiences. As a mother, Mary was a shining example of selflessness and unwavering support. She and Brad were blessed with two wonderful daughters, Lindsay and Megan. Mary poured her heart into nurturing and guiding her children, instilling in them the values of kindness and compassion as well as a deep faith in the Lord. Her legacy lives on through the love and strength she passed on to her family. Her greatest joy in life was getting to be Mormor to her four grandchildren.

In addition to her love for family and faith, Mary had an infectious joy that touched everyone she encountered. Following college, she had a rewarding career as a buyer with Nordstrom. The position took her to new and exciting places and helped develop her unparalleled customer service and innate ability to care for others. She later transitioned to a fulfilling 36-year-long career working alongside her husband and in-laws at Evergreen Memorial Gardens, Cemetery Funeral Chapel and Crematory. She took great pride in working in the family business, especially when both of their daughters joined the profession. Her warm smile, kind words, and genuine concern for others endeared her to many.

Mary is survived by her loving husband, Brad Carlson, their cherished daughters, Lindsay (PJ) Fisher and their two sons Jack and Will of Vancouver, WA; Megan (Doug) Field and their two children Ella and Oliver of Washougal, WA; Siblings Nancy (Roger) Sayer, Vicki Johnson and Rose Simonseth all of Mount Vernon, WA, Margaret (Bill) Neudorfer of Seattle, WA, a host of beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, family and friends who will forever carry her memory in their hearts. She is preceded in death by her parents, A. Elliott and Eileen Johnson, as well as her brother, Elliott Johnson.

A memorial service to celebrate Mary's life will be held on Saturday, January

6th at 2:00pm at Columbia Presbyterian Church in Vancouver, WA with a reception to follow at Royal Oaks Country Club. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to King's Way Christian School Scholarship Fund or the Child Abuse Assessment Team at Legacy Salmon Creek Hospital, both organizations near and dear to Mary's heart.

# Tribute Wall

GJ

“ *God bless Mary and her family.* ”



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**Gj** - February 14, 2025 at 12:00 AM

YA

“ *Brad & Family, we are so sorry for your loss. Mary's life and smile will not be forgotten! May the Lord bless you during this difficult time.* ”



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**Your friends at AWB** - January 06, 2024 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ *Marys smile and beautiful soul always lit up the room. I feel very blessed having known her. Continued prayers for the family.* ”

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**Liz Calvert** - January 06, 2024 at 12:00 AM

DO

“ I said, "Is this seat taken?" She said, "No. Please join me." I sat down and that started a 35 year long distance friendship. Mary lived on the west coast and I lived on the east. We only saw each other 1 or 2 times a year but we sent letters, cards and talked on the phone in between those visits. We shared about our children, husband's and just life in general. We went thru birthdays, weddings, deaths and having grandchildren. Oh how she loved her family. Each time we talked or saw each other we picked up where we left off. We laughed, she had a wonderful laugh, and we cried together. I will miss my friend. But, I take comfort in knowing that one day I will see her again and we will pick up right where we left off! All my love to the Carlson family. Donna

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**Donna Owens** - January 06, 2024 at 12:00 AM

GA

“ Hello Brad.  
I was sorry to see that your wife passed away last November. My thoughts and prayers are with you.  
Gary Van Assen

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**Gary Van Assen** - January 06, 2024 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ Brad and family,  
Such sad news to hear. Our hearts are heavy for you. We send our love and prayers of strength and healing. May you be continually blessed with her loving memories.  
Clair & Sharon Ferris  
Funeral Alternatives of Washington

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**Clair Ferris** - January 04, 2024 at 12:00 AM

JH

“ Jeff Dorothy /Cattermole Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Mary Maudine Johnson Carlson



Jeff Dorothy /Cattermole Funeral Home - January 03, 2024 at 12:00 AM

TT

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

The Neudorfer's, Gail, Brad, Jenny and Branden Todd - January 01, 2024 at 12:00 AM

GB

“ Georgi Jayme Nicole and I will forever miss you, your friendly smile, your laughter and most of all your friendship.

Georgi, Jayme, Nicole, Colin, Stella, and Bill - December 29, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LM

“ With loving memories of our sister "Mary Johnson Carlson"



Love always from Nancy, Vicki, Rose and Margie - December 28, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ So very sad to hear of Marys passing. What a lovely woman she was. Her spirit will truly live on in her wonderful daughters & grandchildren. Blessings



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**Lynda and Tracy Wilson** - December 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

LW

“ Remembering Mary and her wonderful family at this difficult time. Our prayers are still with you. Love and hugs

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**Lynda and Tracy Wilson** - December 10, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AN

“ With Love from Emma, Mattias, Linn, Maja and Lisen, Varberg, Sweden

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**Anonymous** - December 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

DT

“ One of the most amazing people I have ever met.

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**Doug Thorkildson** - December 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ I know the Carlsons professionally. I handled their business insurance for seven years. While interviewing with Federated, they inquired if I had any reservations about the job. I replied bluntly, "I dread funeral homes. Strange and creepy." My hiring manager at Federated chuckled and said it'd be no problem.

Years later, I was completely wrong about my notion. This industry and the EMG crew and Carlson family specifically have enhanced my life more than I could have expected. I always felt welcome and kindness when I visited. In many ways, that inviting atmosphere came from Mary; she was the matriarch.

I remember her telling me about her times at Nordstrom's and her wedding day to Brad while I was going through the engagement with my now wife. She mostly asked about my life and how I was doing, rarely wishing to speak about herself.

I recently had a lively talk with her about my July-born baby, Wesley. Her delight over my wife's pregnancy made me feel like part of her extended family. She asked me about his name and how we came up with it, and she was so charming and engaging in the conversation that day.

Even wearing that head scarf of hers over the past few months that I saw her she wore it with pride and style only that of a Nordstrom's buyer could possess. I will truly miss Mary as she truly was a blessing and brought a smile to my face LITERALLY every time I saw her.

We recently decided to move to Idaho to raise our kids, but Mary and the Carlson family made me feel like I had a familial presence in SW Washington.

I will miss her and will never forget her presence.

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Max - December 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

YS

“ I had such wonderful conversations as we would talk about Wreaths Across America and getting the event at Evergreen to be perfect. Mary will truly be missed she is an amazing woman. God Bless

Yekaterina Stanley - December 08, 2023 at 12:00 AM

PH

“ We are so sorry for your loss. Mary was such a warm and wonderful person, and our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time.



Pat and Bonnie Hollick - December 07, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KE

“ With broken hearts💔 we say goodbye to Mary, knowing that she will rendezvous, at the RainBow Bridge, with her family, friends, pets and backyard birds. She lovingly nourished her entire flock. They will walk across together to explore their next journey, Eternity.... God'sPeace. 💖Kenny/Danny

Kenny/Danny - December 06, 2023 at 12:00 AM

TG

“ To all the Carlson family, So so sorry for the loss of such a great woman. all of us here at OM Stone send our prays and love to you during this holiday season. May God bring grace and rest to all of you.

Tony Goiburn - December 06, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AC

“ *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 Mary Maudine Johnson Carlson - December 05, 2023 at 12:00 AM**