



Joan Farmer Parr

March 1, 1947 - January 29, 2023

Joan Farmer Parr, 75, of Prescott, Arizona passed away on Sunday, January 29, 2023 after a brief illness. She was home with her husband and children by her side.

The youngest of two children, she was born in Sac City, Iowa on March 1, 1947 to Keith and Mary Farmer. On May 31, 1968, she married Alfred David Parr, her best friend and true love.

She is survived by her husband David; two children, Matt (Carrie) Parr of Chicago, Illinois and Angela (Bryant) Hicks of San Leandro, California; six grandchildren, Beatrice, Luke, Khalil, Wyatt, Saniyya, and Finnegan; and her sister Mary K Sine.

Joan graduated from Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in English. Following school she worked as a teacher. She later received her Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Kansas. After living in Lawrence, Kansas for 37 years, Joan and David retired to Prescott, Arizona in 2018. Joan was an active volunteer throughout her life in both communities. She was an avid supporter of women's rights, the Democratic party, Small World, Habitat for Humanity, and People Who Care.

Joan treasured her family above all else. She was a devoted wife, loving

mother, and adoring grandmother. Joan's infectious laugh, curiosity, patience and determination were a gift to all who knew her. She was a steadfast supporter of her family and friends and was always a great listener for all of the people that she loved.

Joan's hobbies included bridge, traveling, Mah-jongg and golf. She had formed many special bonds through her bridge groups in both Lawrence and Prescott and the Mah-jongg group she formed in her neighborhood. She also had many beloved lifelong friends from her childhood and the many places she and David lived during their 54 years of marriage. In retirement Joan returned to the game of golf which she and David played regularly, usually with his golf buddies. This retirement period brought them to a new level of closeness and love that will be cherished forever by David. Joan also loved to travel and especially treasured trips with her family. The highlight was probably their 50th anniversary celebration in Sonoma, California with all of her children, their spouses and grandchildren.

Even as a young married woman Joan was a strong believer in women's rights. In 1972 she was asked to resign from her teaching job in Cedar Rapids, Iowa in her 5th month of pregnancy with Matt. Joan, of course, refused to resign and was terminated. The school was sued on Joan's behalf by the Iowa Civil Liberties Union and three years later won the case in the Iowa Supreme Court. The case resulted in the overturn of the Iowa law that prevented teachers more than five months pregnant from working. Her settlement was a check for her lost wages which she refused to accept until they also included three years of interest.

Joan will be cremated at the Hampton Funeral Home in Prescott. Celebration of Life gatherings will be held in both Prescott and in Lawrence at yet-to-be determined locations and dates.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Joan's honor to Planned Parenthood or Maggie's Hospice, 801 Miller Valley Road, Prescott, AZ 86301.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ I have fond memories of being in Sac City Senior High School with Joannie. Please accept my prayers of condolences. Dianne Simpson Slutsky from California

Dianne Simpson Slutsky - February 06, 2023 at 04:01 PM

JL

“ Joan was one of the nicest women I have ever known. When I was young and newly married and in college she told me I would need a lot of hamburger recipes, and I still make some she gave us. She also explained that I would need to teach Dan how to hang the toilet paper correctly (over the top!) . I am still working on that one! I have enjoyed her wit and graciousness and intelligence. We will greatly miss her presence on this earth.

Jan Lovett - February 04, 2023 at 12:47 PM

GD

“ So sorry to hear this David! May the good Lord bless and keep her!

Gary Dahmke - February 04, 2023 at 11:56 AM

PG

“ So sorry to hear of Joan's passing. Reading her obituary was the first we had heard this. Joanie was a beautiful person. I know my Mom thought alot of her. I was really shocked when I read this. Please accept our condolences. We will be praying for you Dave and your family. Greg & Peggy Gwinn

PEGGY GWINN - February 04, 2023 at 09:12 AM

LM

“ *There are no words adequately express our deep sorrow in the loss of our dear friend, Joan Parr. She will be missed by many, especially her bridge sisters. She was a gracious lady and full of fun. Fly high Joanie! Love you to the moon and back* ❤️😘

Lois McCune - February 03, 2023 at 11:03 PM