



Diana M Sparks

November 18, 1946 - September 3, 2017

With great sadness, the family of Diana Kolb Sparks announces her unexpected passing on September 3, 2017, at the age of 70, from complications following open heart surgery. She was surrounded by her loving family and devoted friends.

She is pre-deceased by her husband and best friend, Albert Farrington Sparks, her parents August and Maria Kolb and her brother, Frank Kolb and by aunts, uncles and cousins.

Diana is survived by her four sisters, Maria Martins of Kissimmee; H. Sandy Kolb of Leesburg; Dorothea Ferri and her husband, Kevin McCoskey of Mamaroneck, NY; Vicki Brooks and her husband, Scott of Stratford, CT; and her sister-in-law, Jeanne Kolb of Harrison, NY. She also was the loving aunt of Debbie Porter and her husband, Vince; Christopher Kolb; Matthew Kolb; Cynthia Leckart; Robert Ferri and his wife, Lisa; Courtney Brooks and her wife, Marie Carney; Katie Kolb; and Steven Brooks and his wife, Lauren. In addition, she was the devoted great-aunt of Molly Porter, Jacob Leckart, and Caroline and Lilly Brooks.

Diana was born in Flushing, N.Y. to August and Maria Kolb (Vigliotti) on November 18, 1946. After relocating to White Plains, N.Y. with her family. Diana attended White Plains Public Schools where she received the Pearl Ravikoff Memorial Award for outstanding service to her school in the quiet, modest manner that was her hallmark. This was Diana's first foray into community service, which she would carry throughout her whole life.

Upon finishing high school, Diana attended the local community college before starting her 30-year career at IBM Corporation mostly in upper management.

She was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in White Plains, where she served in many capacities, including the Church Council, Sunday School Superintendent, and Revised Hymnal Committee, to name a few.

In 1997, Diana moved to Leesburg, Florida, where she lived with her sister, Sandy for twenty years. She was an active member of both Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and her community. Diana was extremely generous of her time and financial blessings, taking part in many charitable church undertakings, including Children's Backpack Committees, Bicycles for Students, Food Pantry, Angel Tree, Church Council, Altar Guild and many, many more. She always was there to lend a helping hand.

In her community, she collected clothing and houseware donations for the Women's Abuse Center and The Sheriff's Ranch. She also was a very generous contributor to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Wounded Warriors and to her church – all of which were close to her heart.

A celebration of Diana's life will be held at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, at 130 S. Lone Oak Dr., Leesburg, Fla., with the Reverend Marilyn S. Crosby on FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 at 11:00 a.m.

Memorial Donations in memory of Diana may be made to Gloria Dei Lutheran Church (address above) or St. Jude's Research Hospital, online or at 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, TN 38105.

Diana was much loved and respected and will be greatly missed by all.

Events

SEP 15 **A Celebration of Life Service** 11:00AM

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church ELCA
130 South Lone Oak Drive, Leesburg, FL, US, 34748

Comments



“ What a Sweet lady!!! Miss seeing Dianna and Sandy at the Okahumpka P.O. Always had that smile and could brighten my day!!! God Bless Sandy and Family and comfort you through this time. Till We Meet Again!

Jonathan Sylvia - September 17, 2017 at 12:38 AM



“ Peace, Prayers, & Blessings- All White was purchased for the family of Diana M Sparks.



September 14, 2017 at 09:42 AM



“ Floor Plant for Sympathy was purchased for the family of Diana M Sparks.



September 13, 2017 at 01:29 PM



“ So much can be said about this beautiful soul who touched so many lives and brought love and compassion to everyone she knew. Those of us who knew her well know what a blessing she was to her family and her friends. Our friendship goes back many years and I will always cherish the memories we shared.....the fun, the laughs, the many talks and even the tears. Diana was a very important part of my life and I will miss her more than I can ever say. My heart goes out to her sisters Maria, Sandy, Dorothea and Vicki.....so much love among you, with a sister-love that goes beyond compare. I pray that you will somehow find peace knowing your angel is looking down at you.

Rest peacefully in the arms of the Lord, my friend, and know that I love you and you will forever remain in my heart

Nancy Denyes - September 08, 2017 at 10:05 AM



“ From the first time I met Diana many many years ago (with my sister Nancy, one of her very very dear and close friend), Diana always had that pleasant and welcoming smile on her face. Thru her spiritual and religious being, Dee-Dee always saw 'light at the end of the tunnel'. She was true and honest not a smigen of disbelief in her way of life. She loved her family, unconditionally, and her four sisters -- warmly spoke of them often and had a special bond with each one ... a wonderful tribute not shared by many families. Diane loved her life in Florida but was always happy to come home to NY around the Holidays to spend festive time with her family and close friends. Diana was a pleasure to share time with .. to laugh with, to dine with or whatever. To see Diana's face on this page - reading her obituary is just so saddening. This crazy lady will be missed by so many and for so many reasons. Rest in Peace my friend :-(((

Mags

Mags Matturro - September 07, 2017 at 10:29 PM



“ 35 years of friendship and I can say without a doubt she was one of the kindest and thoughtful ladies I've ever known. Always with a thoughtful card and a deep concern for my wife's health.

I will miss the silly memories from our IBM days together but most of all, I will feel the loss of you not being here any longer. You're in a better place for sure Princess.

VO

Vince Olivet - September 07, 2017 at 10:23 PM



“ Mike and I want to offer our condolences to Sandy and family. We remember when we moved here how open and friendly Diana and Sandy were to us. The "sisters " really helped to make us welcome and our transition easier. We will never forget you.
Mike and Donna Tarnok

Mike Tarnok - September 07, 2017 at 05:53 PM



“ My memory of Diana was when I moved to Harding Ave White Plains, and rented and apt from her Mom and Dad, It was such a big part in my life. I met a wonderful family and at that time and we became very close
Diana use to visit me all the time and baby sat at times, was such a wonderful person
She is finally out of suffering

RIP
Love always,
Joyce

Joyce Gallagher - September 07, 2017 at 02:50 PM



“ It was my privilege to have been Diana's companion and friend for the last seven years. We shared many good times, laughs and experiences. She was a very kind and thoughtful woman and I will miss her very much.

Don Dean

Don M. Dean - September 07, 2017 at 01:14 PM



“ Prayers to Diana's family during this unexpected and sad time of grief. Debbie Massaro

Deborah Grey - September 07, 2017 at 01:00 PM