



## Joanne Hopkins

March 20, 1928 - December 4, 2017

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Joanne Hopkins, 89, died at Regent Court Memory Care in Corvallis from a combination of medical conditions complicated by Alzheimer's disease.

Joanne was born to Walter Alfred "Buck" Swoffer and Henrietta L. Gerlicher in Walnut Grove, Minnesota. She was the youngest of eight children and grew up enjoying swimming, sailing, softball, canoeing, skating, fishing, hunting, and horseback riding. She especially loved the summers she spent as a girl at the family's cottage on Lake Shetek.

Joanne graduated from Walnut Grove High School in 1946 and the Northwestern Hospital School of Nursing in Minneapolis, Minnesota in 1951.

In January 1954, she headed west to California with Jeanette, a nursing

school friend. While working as an R.N. in Visalia, California, she met George G. Hopkins on a blind date and they were married on January 14, 1956 in Las Vegas. A mutual love of sports drew them together.

Joanne continued to work until they started a family, then retired from nursing. Sharon was born in December 1956. Carrie "Coco" and Glenn soon followed.

George's career with the California Youth Authority took them from Visalia, to Paso Robles, Bakersfield, Campbell, and eventually to San Jose in 1965 where Joanne lived until 2013. While in San Jose, they became fans of the San Francisco 49ers and the San Francisco Giants. George retired in 1982 and they enjoyed nine years of retirement together until George died suddenly in 1991.

In November 2013, Joanne moved to Corvallis to be with her daughters. During this time, she attended the Grace Center Adult Day Services while living with Carrie and Rick before moving to Regent Court in 2015.

Joanne's passions were many. As an adult, she enjoyed softball, bowling, golf (twice awarded most improved golfer and two holes in one), swimming, camping, traveling in the motorhome, garage sales, cooking, pets, yoga, crossword puzzles, and gardening.

She had strong friendships with her neighbors in San Jose and her friends at the local YMCA in Saratoga. She also enjoyed attending family reunions.

Joanne remained physically active into her mid 80's.

Joanne is survived by daughters, Sharon (Ted) Pawlak of Albany and Carrie (Rick) Rosteck of Corvallis; son Glenn Hopkins of Sacramento, California; three grandsons; one great-granddaughter; sister Patricia Lund of Roseville, Minnesota; and numerous nieces and nephews.

If you would like to make a donation, please consider the Grace Center in Corvallis, Lumina Hospice, the Alzheimer's Association, or the Alzheimer's Foundation of America.

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# Tribute Wall

DO

“ *Joanne's good friend in Saratoga CA, Lorraine Carol Olson passed away on Jan. 5; 2026 at age of 102: she wished for Joanne's daughter, Coco, be notified but I couldn't get contact info...please know that my mom always thought of Joanne's as her dear friend. Thanks, Don Olson (Lorraine's son)*

Don Olson - January 15 at 08:37 PM

JU

“ *Judith lit a candle in memory of Joanne Hopkins*



Judith - December 30, 2017 at 07:33 PM

JU

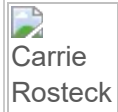
“ *I always enjoyed seeing and chatting with Joanne at your YMCA Yoga class. She was a feisty lady. We all missed her when she was no longer able to attend.*

Judith - December 30, 2017 at 07:32 PM

PN

“ *That was a beautiful memorial for your mother. It shows how many people loved admired her.*

Peggy Navarro - December 08, 2017 at 06:53 PM



Carrie Rosteck

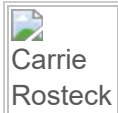
*Hi Peggy. Yep, Mom was character who stood out from the crowd and had enthusiasm for life. She was almost never bored or had a dull moment and I think people liked her genuineness. Coco*

**Carrie Rosteck** - December 10, 2017 at 05:07 PM

JB

*“ I miss Joanne. She was a great lady and had a wonderful personality. Her man was always next to mine at yoga. She gave me some good tips to improve my stretch. Joan Bugado*

**Joan bugado** - December 08, 2017 at 06:10 PM



Carrie Rosteck

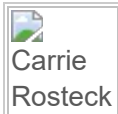
*Yep, Mom never hesitated to give advice! :)*

**Carrie Rosteck** - December 10, 2017 at 05:08 PM

DD

*“ Rest in Peace, Joanne.  
You inspired me with your energy, wisdom and sense of humor.  
Thank you for bringing so much joy to the Southwest Y!  
Dee Danna*

**Dee Danna** - December 07, 2017 at 11:20 PM



Carrie Rosteck

*Sometimes my Dad would complain Mom would never sit still! She always wanted to be in on the action. Coco*

**Carrie Rosteck** - December 10, 2017 at 05:10 PM

LO

“*Joanne and I have been close friends since 1966, we had a lot in common as we were both from the mid-west and both graduated from nurses training in Minneapolis. We had many good times together when our husbands were alive, and went on many camping trips and one trip to Hawaii. She was a great companion and I have missed her very much since she moved to Oregon, Coco has been so good to keep us in touch. I will always have fond memories of our times together. Lorraine Olson*

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**Lorraine Olson** - December 07, 2017 at 10:40 PM

SM

*Joanne*

*You will be missed at Regent Court especially by me and Cali the cat. Cali is the welcoming committee to all the residents, visitors and staff. Unfortunately Cali never welcomed anyone else but Joanne. Animals know who the good souls are. Joanne became more than a resident to me. She became family to me. Every day I would go to work thinking it would be another day. Then Joann would do something funny and everyone would smile and laugh. When her nieghboor or another resident needed help Joanne would seek out a staff member to help them. I know Joanne was a great mother. You can see all the same characteristics in her children Coco and Sharon. They are kind,loving,patient and they also have a good sense of humor ! Thank you Joanne for reminding me to laugh and be silly when life is stressful*

*Maria Dunn  
Activities Assistant*

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**Sally Miers** - December 08, 2017 at 10:52 AM

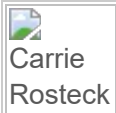
CF

“ Dear Family:

*My name is Catherine Fulde. I am a contemporary of your mom's and for many years was in the same classes as she at the "Y". What impressed me so much about your mom was her enthusiasm, generosity and positive nature. Frequently, she would tell us about her activities; like cleaning out the rain gutters or pruning her trees and finding a bird's nest. She loved sharing her orange harvest with us all in class, and when something adverse happened to any of us, she always had a kind word to lift our spirits. Joanne will be missed, but look at it this way, she will bring her loving spirit with her as she joins your other dearly departed loved ones in the Lord.*

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**Catherine Fulde** - December 07, 2017 at 09:37 PM



Carrie  
Rosteck

*Thank you for your kind words Catherine. Mom loved the "Y".*

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**Carrie Rosteck** - December 10, 2017 at 04:54 PM

BB

“ *She always had a smile and a kind word for us in her yoga class. What I remember most are her skinny jeans She also talked about the garage sales that she would find her up to date clothing. She is a hero to me and I hope I can be as fit when I get older*  
**Barbara Barone**

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**barbara barone** - December 07, 2017 at 08:24 PM



Carrie  
Rosteck

*Thanks Barbara. Mom dressed the way she felt - young at heart!*

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**Carrie Rosteck** - December 10, 2017 at 04:55 PM

PR

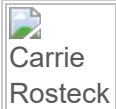
“ *Joanne was really a great gal! So friendly and funny, too. Loved being around her! She made exercising so enjoyable!! Pat Rittener*

Pat Rittener - December 07, 2017 at 05:22 PM

CL

“ *A lovely woman who always shared her beautiful smile and positive attitude with everyone around her. This is her legacy to live on, share a smile and be positive, and you will honor JoAnn.*

Cathy Lorensen - December 07, 2017 at 03:53 PM



Carrie Rosteck

*Thanks Cathy. I'm glad you got to know Mom at the Grace Center.*

Carrie Rosteck - December 10, 2017 at 04:57 PM

MB

“ *Marie Bresani lit a candle in memory of Joanne Hopkins*



Marie Bresani - December 07, 2017 at 02:56 PM

MB

*I met her at my first Balance class at the Y in Saratoga, she welcomed me with a loving, sincere smile. How lucky I was! May she rest in peace.  
My condolences to her family...*

Marie Bresani - December 07, 2017 at 03:00 PM

PM

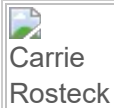
*"Villanova Joanne" is what our family lovingly called Joanne. We live just a few blocks way from her on Swarthmore Drive. Because I have another good friend named Joanne we had to distinguish which one we would be speaking of. Many times I would visit with Jo we would sit on her porch and talk for hours. A person I will never forget. And miss. Rest in peace dear friend.*

**Peggy McCarty** - December 07, 2017 at 05:58 PM

SR

*What a joy it was to know Joanne - even if only at classes at the Y. She always had something interesting to share along with her smile and "stylin" outfits. Missed her when she left the area and even more now that she's sharing her smile somewhere in the universe.*  
*Sue Rizzi*

**Ssue Rizzi** - December 09, 2017 at 01:09 AM



*Marie, Peggy, and Sue, it's good to hear such fond memories of Mom. Thank you. Coco*

**Carrie Rosteck** - December 10, 2017 at 05:00 PM

WG

*“ So happy to have known Joanne. She was a special lady.*  
*Willy Gardner*

**willy Gardner** - December 07, 2017 at 02:35 PM

MH

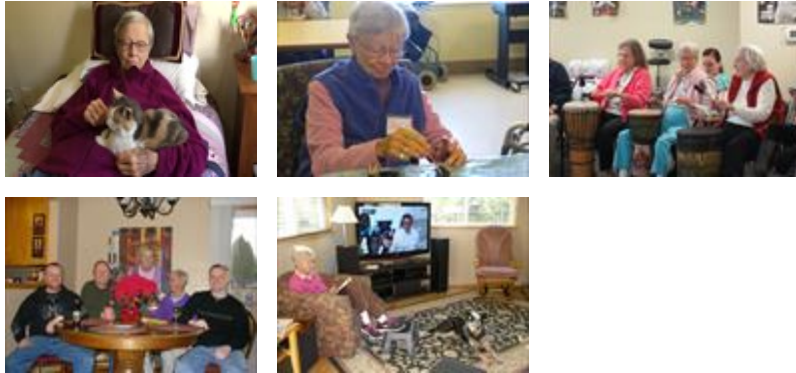
*“ A lovely lady. Always fun in class. May she Rest In Peace.*



**marilyn hofman** - December 07, 2017 at 02:14 PM

CR

“ 43 files added to the album *More recent photos*



Carrie Rosteck - December 07, 2017 at 10:00 AM

CR

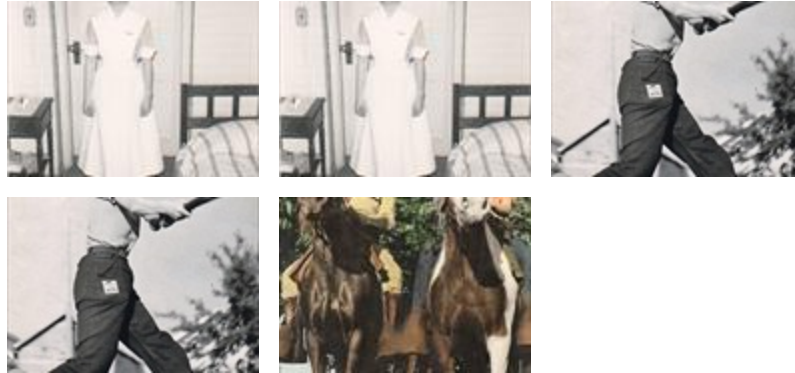
“ 27 files added to the album *Oldies*



Carrie Rosteck - December 07, 2017 at 09:20 AM

CR

“ 7 files added to the album *Oldies*



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**Carrie Rosteck** - December 06, 2017 at 04:02 PM

CR

“ 1 file added to the album *Oldies*



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**Carrie Rosteck** - December 06, 2017 at 03:59 PM