



Mrs. Jacqueline Joan Berkman

February 22, 1943 - April 26, 2023

Jacqueline Joan Seif Berkman, affectionately known as Jackie, died at her home in Alexandria, VA on Wednesday, April 26, 2023. Jackie was born on February 22, 1943, in Baltimore, MD. She was the first of three children born to Milton Seif and Gertrude Eisenkraft Seif.

Jackie cared deeply about her family and friends, her students, animals, the environment, and justice for all. She was a very principled and courageous woman.

Jackie grew up in Baltimore with her brothers, Tom and Steve. As a child, she was influenced by her parents' Union and political activities, which focused on a wide range of social and economic causes, including the civil rights movement, the labor movement, and rights for the unemployed. As a teenager, Jackie participated in protests against segregation, including spending a night in jail after a lunch counter sit-in. These were foundational experiences in her life, which sustained her commitment to racial justice, her anti-war sentiment, and justice for all living creatures throughout her lifetime.

Jackie left home at 17 years old to attend the University of Maryland. While at UMD, she helped organize the Committee of Racial Equity (CORE), organized and continued to participate in demonstrations, picket lines, and lunch counter sit-ins for civil rights.

While at the University of Maryland, Jackie met her future husband, Kenneth Berkman. They were married in a winter storm by candlelight on December 30, 1962, in Milburn, NJ. To this union were born two children, Jennifer Ruth and Katherine Rachel. Jackie was a devoted mother and obtained much joy from her children, nieces and nephews. Jackie was an avid believer in education and started an elementary school (Partridgeberry) in 1970 after being disappointed in the public school system. Throughout Jenny and Kate's early childhood, Jackie volunteered and taught at their school, Burgundy Farm Country Day School. In 1980, Jackie graduated from George Mason University with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology. Although she earned a science degree, she found her calling teaching adult English as a Second Language (ESL).

In addition, to her family and career, Jackie enjoyed close friends with whom she shared her love of the outdoors, gardening, and quilting.

Jackie leaves to celebrate her life: her husband, Kenneth Berkman; two daughters, Jenny Parker (James) and Kate Spence (David); two brothers, Tom Seif and Steve Seif (Beverly); her brother in law, Steve (Ellen); her grandchildren, Phoebe, Cecily, Zachary, Jacob, Ebon, and James; her great grandchildren Jonah, Julian, Jaylin, and Zoe; her nieces and nephews Alix (Dan), Dan (Lauren), Diana (Ethan), Nancy, Linda, and Phyllis; and her great nieces, Stevie and Jasmine, and great nephew, Nathan.

In addition to her parents, she was also preceded in death by her nephew Bob Berkman.

Previous Events

Graveside Service

APR 30. 1:00 PM (ET)

Laurel Hill East Cemetery
3822 Ridge Ave
Philadelphia, PA 19132

The funeral will be an outdoor, graveside service. Mom has requested everyone come in your most comfortable clothes (jeans and purple or other bright colors encouraged). We are expecting rain so please dress accordingly. A tent and umbrellas will be provided. We will have time to return to the hotel to change into dry clothes before dinner.

Live Streaming Service Link:

<https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/3780137823>

APR 30. 1:00 PM (ET)

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Tribute Wall



“ *Phillip Bell Sr. and Winona Morrissette-Johnson Funeral Service, P.A. created a Webcast in memory of Mrs. Jacqueline Joan Berkman*



Phillip Bell Sr. and Winona Morrissette- - April 28, 2023 at 07:33 PM

PP

*Found this video and watched it online while pursuing update on Ken Berkman. My action was prompted by recent email from Ken inquiring as to my state.
Pomey---- respond to Ken!*

Pomerantz Pomerantz - October 17, 2024 at 09:25 PM

TS

“ *The Members and Staff of SEIUVA512 purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Mrs. Jacqueline Joan Berkman.*



The Members and Staff of SEIUVA512 - May 01, 2023 at 04:37 PM



“ *Thinking of everyone today. Jackie was a warm, loving and caring woman who was kind, smart and devoted to her family. I know she will be terribly missed.*

Sue Seif - April 30, 2023 at 02:38 PM



“ 3 files added to the album *Memories Album*



Phillip Bell Sr. and Winona Morrissette - - April 28, 2023 at 07:09 PM