Suzanne Eleanor Owen

Suzanne passed away on Friday morning, December 6, 2024, at Saanich Peninsula Hospital, with family and friends at her side. She was born to parents Norman and Marguerite Haywood, in Prince Rupert on April 6, 1951, and in time was joined by three sisters, Kim, Diana, Joann and brother Kent. They grew up largely in West Vancouver and then Parksville.

Suzanne, with husband Gil, lived most of their 51 years together in Brentwood Bay and raised a family of four sons and was a loving and devoted mother to Tyler(Felicia), Jonathan(Angela), Andrew, and Jeffrey(Nichola). She loved to cook, was passionate about her garden and loved her dogs, Soo Ling and Lily. In more recent years she has been a constant and adoring Gramma. Seven grandchildren whom she has fed and cared for, entertained and watched at play. She taught many to swim, all of them to play cards. They are much loved. Harrison, Natalie, Jayden, Dylan, Nora, Malia and Aria.

She was a stay-at-home mum for 9 years with three kids, and then with extraordinary ability and effort, and the support of her family, Suzanne returned to school in 1982 and qualified as a registered nurse in 1984. After nursing for 2 years, the birth of Jeff in 1986, and then an ER training program at Kwantlen College and St. Paul’s Hospital in Vancouver, Suzanne began a long career as an ER nurse at Jubilee Hospital in Victoria. She took her love of people and friendships to a work that spanned more than 30 years.

Family came first for Suzanne and she followed her sons into their various sports as a volunteer. Scorekeeping little league games, timekeeping at countless competitive swimming events and ready on the sidelines of rugby games was where to find her. She worked the medical tent at many 5k, 10k and marathon running events, was a volunteer head nurse during the Commonwealth Games at the pool and then leveraged that to

volunteer as a nurse, during the Vancouver 2010 Olympics, in the Athletes Village.

Always up for an adventure, she and a fellow nurse teamed up to relieve nurses at the hospital in Bella Coola for a number of two week stints. They would fly in or go by road and they still have friends there.

She travelled with family or friends: Swim meets with kids, California/Disneyland, India, Scotland, Europe road trip, New Zealand, Egypt, U.S road trip, Mexico, Hawaii, getaways with friends to Gulf Island B&B's, East Coast autumn road trip. Just some that come to mind.

Suzanne was an unpretentious and fearlessly social woman with a laugh and a smile that captivated. She never forgot your name. She loved. And is loved.

Thanks to the VGH and Cancer Clinic staff, who allowed Suzanne to stay for a few more months.

Thank you to the Saanich Peninsula Health Unit Palliative Team for their care of Suzanne and Gil, which kept her at home for a beautiful summer and fall with friends and family.

Thanks to the Saanich Peninsula Hospital Palliative Care Team (Nurses, H.C.A's , Doctors, food services staff, everyone) for extraordinary care during the last weeks of Suzanne's battle with Glioblastoma brain cancer.

Condolences may be offered to the family below.

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