

## LOIS RICHARDS



It is with great sorrow that our family announces the passing of our dear sister, and aunt Lois. Lois was preceded in death by her parents Ernest & Lucille Richards. She is survived by her younger brother William & sister-in-law Patricia Richards, and their children: Robert (Vicki) Richards, Rebecca Euell, Robin (Brent) Harnack, Laurie (Eric) Arnold, Luci Schumacher and many great nieces and nephews.

She was a graduate of North Central High School & from Washington State University (1962) with a B.A. in Sociology, and was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. She taught English in Ethiopia while she served in the Peace Corp for 2 yrs. Lois went on to graduate from University of Denver with a M.A. in International Studies in 1966. For more than 30 yrs, Lois was a State Department Foreign Officer for the U.S.

Agency for International Development (USAID), and Bureau for Humanitarian Response, where she was Deputy Assistant Administrator in Washington D.C. While she retired from USAID as a Career Minister in the Foreign Service in March 1995, she stayed on for an additional year as a consultant. After her graduations, & serving in Ethiopia, Lois' career served many other destinations, including: Liberia, Nigeria, Ghana, Kenya, Jordan, Somalia, West & Central Africa (Bureau For Africa), eventually returning to Washington D.C.; working in Refugee Programs, Bureau for Food & Humanitarian, and International Development & Relief Programs. She received many awards throughout her career, including: Presidential Meritorious Service Award (1984 & 1986); Presidential Distinguished Service Award (1988); Administrators Award for Distinguished Career Service (1995). Lois was a major supporter of many organizations, with many holding special spots in her heart. She spent years serving on the board of directors and eventually as President (4yrs) of the Inland Empire Council of Campfire Boys & Girls. Lois started way back as a Bluebird in 1947, and never looked back. Lois was involved in the local community in other organizations also including: Spokane County Community Development Advisory Committee, & a dedicated member of Board of Directors for Spokane Humane Society, serving as President & Vice President. Lois was the most compassionate & dedicated KEEPER of her beloved cats who survived her: Buftah, Lijj, & Scooter. She had many beloved cats over the years & a dog named "Elvis". Her hobbies were golf, foreign affairs, reading, music, photography, and of course taking care of her cats. A Private Family Celebration of Life will be held for her family to honor her beloved memory.

A memorial will be held at a later date next Spring. LOIS' HEART HAS STOPPED, BUT EVERYTHING ABOUT HER WILL BE IN OUR HEARTS FOREVER. Arrangements are being handled by Pacific Northwest Cremation, Spokane, WA. If you would like to honor Lois' memory, donations can be made to SPOKANIMAL, in Spokane WA.

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