

Sophia Helene Van Der Bijl Obituary

January 22, 1976 - January 21, 2024



A quote from a MCC friend also called Sophia: “Sophia was the best: direct, funny, hardworking and very loving with her own particular flavor.”

A graduate the Washington International School (International Baccalaureate), McGill University (Bachelor of

arts, Political Science and Economics), the Paris Institute of Political Studies, Paris, France (Diploma in International Law), School of Advanced International Studies, Bologna, Italy (Master of arts, International Affairs). A career in international development with Chemonics International in DC and Botswana, the Millennium Challenge Corporation in DC, Public Health Institute Fellows Program, and United States Agency for International Development in DC as a monitoring and evaluation specialist.

Wife to John, step-mother to Matthew, daughter to Rudy and Francoise-Line, and sister to Edmond. Greatly loved.

An informal celebration of her life will be held at Robert A. Pumphrey Funeral Homes, 7557 Wisconsin Ave, Bethesda on January 31 at 1:00 pm. You are encouraged to say a few words about why she was so very special. This will be followed by a WIS style after celebration at Rock Bottom Restaurant & Brewery.

