

Donna Bailey

Sep 23, 1940 - Sep 6, 2023



Donna Jean Bailey Zabell passed away on Wednesday, September 6, 2023, at the age of 82.

Donna was born September 23, 1940 to Donald and Grace (Jarnigan) Bailey, in the Snohomish Hospital. She had two siblings, Patty Laurel and Ernest (Buck) Bailey, 1/2 sisters, Lynn Stemerick and Marie Bailey, and step brothers Dale and Gary Francois. Donna grew up in Snohomish and Edmonds, graduating from Edmonds High School in 1958.



Donna was introduced to Rodney Harold Zabell, April 1, 1960, and they were married one year later on April 7, 1961. Donna became a mother on September 21st, 1963, to daughter, Susan Lynn, who was the light of her life. She later gave birth to a son, Scott Rodney, who was born & died on November 21, 1967, breaking her heart and hopes for a large family. Donna was not new to loss, as her mother Grace passed away when Donna was only 7 years old, and her sister Patty when she was 20.

Donna's first job was at Seafirst National Bank, where she worked until she started to show. You couldn't be pregnant and work at the bank, so she became a stay at home mom, until June 1st, 1978 when she started working at Glass by Lund. Donna started by answering the phone for a couple hours a day, and was there for 37 1/2 years! She loved working for her dear friends Bob and Helen.

Susan married Matt Koetje in 1984, Rod and Donna finally had a son to love, and that love was returned by Matt. The greatest joy in Donna's life was when she became a grandmother. John, her grandson, was born on her 48th birthday and shortly after a granddaughter, Laura. Finally, her heart felt healed.

Rod and Donna made their home in Snohomish, where they could be close to family. They loved spending time with the Houcks, Jones', and Jarnigans. They were the best of friends, spending countless hours planning and having gatherings, camping, hunting, fishing, and loving each other. Donna hosted many large parties in their roomie home. In 2020, Rod and Donna built a home 30 feet from Matt and Susan so they could be close and eliminate all the driving back and forth, but Donna's dementia soon reared its ugly head, and slowly took our beloved away, breaking our hearts a little every day.

Donna was a friend to many. People trusted her opinion and guidance. She had a good ear and advice when desired.

Donna is survived by her husband of 62 years, Rodney Zabell, Daughter, Susan (Matt) Koetje, grandson, John (Katie) Koetje, granddaughter, Laura (Taylor) Marsh and great granddaughter, Hazel Jean Marsh. Also, her sweet pup, Pudgy the fourth. She is predeceased by her parents, Grace and Donald Bailey, sister Patty Laurel, brother Buck, son Scott, sister Lynn, favorite aunts Hazel Houck and Pat Jones, and mother and father in-law Harold and Fern Zabell.

Donna will be forever missed and never forgotten.

A Memorial will be held on Saturday, September 16th, 2:00pm at the Floyd Norgaard Cultural Center, 27130 102nd Ave NW, Stanwood, WA. 98292

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