



Ann Marie Yackel

October 29, 1945 - March 17, 2020

Ann Marie Yackel, 74, of Blaine, Washington, passed away March 17, 2020, at Peace Health Saint Joseph Hospital in Bellingham, Washington, of a massive brain hemorrhage. She was born in Decatur, Illinois, on October 29, 1945. She was the wife of Walter Carl Yackel, an Illinois native as well. They were married for 47 years.

Ann graduated from the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois, in 1967 with a degree in Home Economics. She then worked in the A. E. Staley Research Center in Decatur and Chicago, before moving to Kraft Kitchens, preparing foods for the advertising photographers.

Ann was a devoted gardener at home and a certified Master Gardener in Decatur, Illinois. She loved to travel to Arizona in spring to enjoy the desert in bloom. Ann and her husband also enjoyed many trips to Alaska and northern Canada, especially trips above the Arctic Circle. In 1995, she and her husband bought a cottage on the Alaska Highway outside of Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, where they spent several weeks every year enjoying the beautiful countryside in summer and fall. Ann especially loved photography and took her camera everywhere she went, taking hundreds of pictures especially of flowers.

A larger gathering celebrating her life will be held at a later date when it is

safer to do so. In lieu of flowers, a donation in Ann's name to the Juvenile Diabetes Association would be appropriate.

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *Ann Marie Yackel's obituary appeared in today's Herald & Review newspaper in Decatur, Illinois. Ann was my Woodrow Wilson Junior High School classmate, Ann Shildneck. Her maiden name wasn't mentioned in the obituary.*

I remember Ann very well because we both took piano lessons in the Preparatory Department at Millikin University with Zelna Lowe. We even played a couple of duets together for recitals in Kaeuper Hall during high school days (I have the programs!). We also both played clarinet in 8th grade band with Mr. Ken Stilwell. I remember when Ann missed a day or two when her older brother passed away.

Condolences to Ann's family.

John Baird

John H Baird - March 22, 2020 at 12:00 AM