



Nancy Anne Fisher

July 28, 1947 - November 9, 2023

Surrounded by her family and loved ones, Nancy Fisher went to be with Jesus in the very early hours of November 9th, 2023 due to complications from pancreatic cancer. She was 76 years old.

She was born Nancy Anne Burke on July 28, 1947, to Simpson and Esther Burke in Madison, Wisconsin, where her father instructed at the University of Wisconsin Medical School. The Burkes moved to Redwood City, CA in 1952 for her dad's medical practice, and there Nancy grew up playing piano, working at summer camp in the Redwoods, and tagging along on neighborhood adventures with her older brother, Bob. She went north to Seattle Pacific College, where she earned a degree in Nursing, and met Paul Fisher, who became her loving husband and lifelong companion. Weeks after graduating college, they married on the first day of summer, 1969, and began their 54 years of marriage.

Nancy worked as a registered nurse in Dallas, Texas, and Bremerton, Washington before moving to Milwaukie, Oregon when Paul was hired with the Portland Police Department. They eventually settled across the river to

raise their young family in rural Hockinson, Washington. As her kids grew older, Nancy returned to nursing, this time in the public schools. She eventually earned her Master's Degree in Education from Portland State University, all the while working and taking care of her family. This accomplishment laid the foundation for a long career that involved loving kids, helping her community, and fulfilling one of her true callings in life: caring for people in need. When she and Paul both retired, they moved north to Bellingham in order to be close to their children and grandchildren.

Nancy was as loving a grandmother as she was a parent, taking joy in spending time with her grandchildren and rejoicing in each of their accomplishments and activities. Even on the coldest and wettest day of the year, she would arrive bundled against the cold to cheer for the whole team, all the while chatting up people around her and building friendships. At home, she loved to garden, and her yard became a haven for songbirds, bees, and forest creatures. Hummingbirds especially delighted her; the feeder outside her window was full summer and winter, often thawed with a small lightbulb through the harshest weather. Though she loved a cozy blanket, a Hallmark movie, and lots of sugar in her coffee, there was a toughness to Nancy. She infamously built a stone retaining wall by herself to meet her own exacting standards, sending Paul back to the quarry several times to exchange rejected rocks for better material. She was also game for roughing it with her boys on hiking trips to Hurricane Ridge or camping at Takhlakh Lake, high on the slopes of Mt. Adams in search of mountain huckleberries. In later years, she and Paul took many happy trips with their trailer, even driving the entire Alaska Highway on one especially memorable adventure.

Faith was a source of joy and strength in her life, her Bible often open on the kitchen table or sofa where she had been reading to start the day. It motivated her career choice, and it continued in retirement as she looked for ways to love people in need. Nancy volunteered at the Whatcom County Pregnancy Clinic for many years, using her medical training to provide medical care and perform ultrasounds. Wherever she went, she seemed to win people over through her gentleness, open heart, unpretentious manner, and refusal to give up on anyone.

Nancy is survived by her husband, Paul; her children Lance (CJ) and Todd (Kelly); her grandchildren Avery, Ben, Paxon, and Beckett; and her brother Robert (Donna) Burke. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.

Memorial services for Nancy will be held at 1 pm on Wednesday, December 13th at Christ the King Church, 4173 Meridian Street, Bellingham. A live stream will be available at ctk.link/fisher. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Nancy's memory to one of these causes close to her heart: CTK Blessing or Childcare Worldwide.

“Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit”, says the Lord God Almighty.
Zechariah 4:6

Tribute Wall

BC

“ Nancy is my cousin. My first encounter with her was when SPU offered a “/Senior Weekend” for seniors graduating from high school and interested in SPU. Nancy was in her freshman year at SPU and invited me to spend that Senior Weekend with her. It was my first time in a dorm!

My last memory of Nancy was a family gathering at my home when her brother Bob and wife Donna were visiting from SD. We had so many laughs, memories and tears.

She was, and is an integral part of our family! My love and prayers to Paul, Todd and Lance at this time.

Barbara Caddock - December 14, 2023 at 12:00 AM

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“ I remember Nancy as the school nurse at Hockinson schools. She cared for all of the children there. She was very kind. I also remember her at the Little League fields watching her sons play ball. Her youngest, Todd was in my brother’s grade. Hockinson was a small, close knit school community and Nancy was an integral part. Love and prayers to all who knew and loved her.

Liz Foley (Prather) - December 11, 2023 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ Nancy and I met at Seattle Pacific University. She was in the school of Nursing, but I was in Education. My roommate was in the school of Nursing however, so she probably knew Nancy better than I did at first. Nancy was on my residence floor my Junior year. My future husband was a roommate to Paul, her future husband. So as we began dating, we became better acquainted and over the years became closer friends. We kept in touch after college and our marriages. We visited in each others homes, or went on occasional camping trips over the years. We watched her become a faithful wife, a loving mother, and later a supportive mother-in-law, and finally a devoted grandmother. We will remember her as always loving, always kind, strong in her faith in Christ, and always looking for ways to be helpful in her community. We are thankful that she is with the Lord Jesus, and is now in perfect health! But we will miss her! Love you Nancy 💕💕

Sue (and Bill) Kjesbu - December 09, 2023 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Nancy and I met in nursing school at Seattle Pacific University. Connection came early as we were together in class, labs, and clinicals. Closeness came easily as well and continued through the years as we kept in touch through annual updates at Christmas and visits in their home where hospitality was gracious and generous. Scrolling through the photos, I see a life well lived with a tender heart toward the broken. May the Lord bring comfort to Paul and family as they walk through the valley of grief .

Judy Banz - December 02, 2023 at 12:00 AM

AG

“ Nancy will always be remembered as my dear friend and college roommate. I was part of her wedding and she was part of mine. Even though we never lived close, we kept in touch. She was my spiritual sister and inspiration. For the first time in many years, we got to spend time together in April and our visit refreshed my memories of why we had become such good friends. I will always love her and her dear husband. I look forward to someday joining her in heaven and celebrating more memories. Thank you, Nancy, for being one of God’s best blessings in my life. I will miss you.

Ann Van Gilder - November 30, 2023 at 12:00 AM