



## Karen Johanson

July 16, 1945 - July 19, 2014

Karen B. Johanson, age 69, passed away Saturday, July 19, 2014, at Midwest Hospice and Palliative Care Center in Glenview, IL, surrounded by her family.

She was born July 16, 1945, in Peoria, Illinois. As a girl she lived in Peoria, Pekin, and Springfield, IL. Karen attended Western Illinois University and received her Masters Degree in Business from the Lake Forest Graduate School of Management.

Karen lived many places during her life. She worked in Washington D.C. for the government and elected to work in Germany for a while. She then moved to Chicago and worked for American Reserve Insurance Company and then Kemper Group in Long Grove, where she ended her career in insurance as the head of Corporate Planning.

She traveled Europe for a year with her husband, Sven, and son, Erik. They returned to live in San Diego, CA, where she was a mortgage broker and served on the California ISO Board that regulates the power grids in the state. Later, they moved to Temecula, CA, and then to Bluffton, SC, where she lived until recently. She enjoyed travelling to Europe and made numerous trips to visit friends there.

Karen was fond of her parents' cabins on Sugar Maple Lake in Phelps, WI, and spent many summers there. She and her family very recently moved to a home she built on the lake.

She enjoyed flowers and gardening, cooking, and playing games, especially cribbage, bocce ball, bridge, and pinochle. Family was very important to her, and she loved the Christmas holiday. Her love of fun often made her the life of the party.

Karen is survived by her loving husband, Sven Johanson, her son, Erik Johanson, her step-daughter Kimberly Johanson, her sisters Janet Hugger of VA, and Joyce Mol of IL, and her brother, David Petersen, of FL.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Lorman M. Petersen and Adele E. Petersen.

Cremation rites and a memorial service will be held privately at a future date. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to Charleston Hope Lodge, 269 Calhoun Street, Charleston, SC, 29401.