



Josephine Minnie O'Connor

June 26, 1928 - December 6, 2016

Josephine (Jo) O'Connor of Prescott, Arizona passed away on December 6, 2016, at the age of 88. Jo was born on June 26, 1928 in Ann Arbor, Michigan to Henry and Velma Stribley.

In 1950 she graduated from the University of Michigan and later received her teaching credentials from Michigan State University. She taught high school biology for 20 years in Lansing, Michigan. She pioneered introducing sex education in the Lansing High School curriculum and AIDS awareness in the entire community.

In 1948 she married her first husband, John O'Connor. They moved to Prescott, Arizona in 1993, where he predeceased her in 2003.

In 2004, Jo and Jack began a loving relationship. In 2009 Jo and Jack reaffirmed their love for one another in a commitment ceremony at St. Luke's Episcopal Church before family and friends.

Jo was an avid animal lover. She volunteered at the Heritage Park Zoo and became a special companion to the zoo's cougar, Abby. She was also a supporter of several animal welfare organizations. Over the years she had numerous pet dogs and is survived by her current companion, Sunny.

Jo loved playing Scrabble. She was involved with various Scrabble clubs, tournaments, competitions, and endless games with family and friends.

She is survived by her loving partner of 12 years, Jack Helmann; her sons Tim O'Connor and Casey O' Connor; her daughters Julie Quinsey, Jill Moss and Michelle Vasquez, and their families. She was preceded in death by her brother, Richard Stribley, who provided a great deal of guidance and care in her early years.

A Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday January 28, 2017, 11 a.m., at the Yavapai Hills Club House, 4975 Hornet Drive, Prescott, Arizona. In lieu of flowers, a donation to any animal welfare organization in Jo's name would be appreciated.

Arrangements entrusted to Sunrise Funeral Home.

Information provided by survivors.

Tribute Wall



“ *Josephine Minnie O'Connor*

January 30, 2023 at 05:11 AM