



Gloria Cole Peterson

August 26, 1934 - November 24, 2023

Gloria Peterson of Omaha died peacefully November 24, 2023, after a long battle with a rare neurologic disorder. Gloria was born August 26, 1934, in Peoria, IL. She attended the University of Illinois in Champagne where she was a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority. She later completed her education at the University of Nebraska Lincoln, where she earned a bachelor's degree with dual majors in political science and art history. Gloria married Bill Peterson in 1957 and they had three children: Julia, John and Eric. During Bill's career with Caterpillar, they spent time in Peoria, IL, Billings, MT, and Lincoln, NE. In 1984, Bill's career took them to Washington DC until he retired in 1998. Gloria and Bil then returned to Nebraska to spend their retirement days on a small lake in Valley, NE with their children and grandchildren close by.

Gloria was a loving and supportive wife, mother and grandmother ("Grams"). She was always there with an encouraging word or smile, and there was never much quiet around her as she could converse so easily with others. A particular treasure for her were the many friendships she made over the years, many of which lasted her entire life. She had a very natural and caring way of connecting with people and she was loved by many.

Besides family and friends, Gloria's interests included her church, where she loved to sing in the choir, and her community volunteerism, where she was involved in many organizations. She also enjoyed being active with her PEO chapter.

Gloria was an avid sports fan and rarely missed her kids/grandkids events as well as most Husker football and basketball games. She also loved playing tennis with friends and golf with her husband, Bill. Bill and Gloria loved to travel and went on many wonderful trips.

Gloria is preceded in death by husband Bill, son Eric, and sister Sandra Jakoby. She is survived by her daughter, Dr. Julia Bridge and son Dr. John Peterson (Kathy). Her grandchildren include Dr. Stuart Bridge (Tara) and their daughter Emma, Rachael Neff and Laura, Jack and Luke Peterson. She is also survived by her brother Terry Cole (Judie).

The family will hold a private funeral service with Pastor Sandy Webster at Reichmuth Funeral Home. Memorials are suggested to the University of Nebraska Foundation, Nebraska Humane Society, or Donor's choice. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Cemetery Details

Prospect Hill Cemetery of Elkhorn

21901 W. Maple Road
Omaha, NE 68022

Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Gloria Cole Peterson.*



December 30, 2023 at 06:20 AM



“ *Dear Julia and John, I have wonderful memories of your mother. During the time your family lived in Lincoln, I came to know her and your family because we both were members of Delta Delta Delta. We were active as alumnae working with the collegiates and also in a monthly bridge club. She was always such a charming and very nice lady in the truest sense of the word. I live in the Rathbone Village area now and drive by your home on Winthrop Road frequently...think about her whenever I go by. I am so very sorry for your loss. Sincerely, Dorothy Anderson*

Dorothy C Anderson - December 11, 2023 at 06:46 PM