



Betsy Anderson

November 26, 1941 - January 2, 2019

Mary Beth “Betsy” Anderson passed away on Wednesday, January 2, 2019 at home from heart failure. She was 77.

Betsy was born on November 26, 1941 in Beloit, Wisconsin to Elizabeth “Betty” Golosinec Reinholz and Victor Reinholz. She was the second of three children. Betsy attended Merrill Elementary, Roosevelt Junior High, and Beloit Memorial High School, where she graduated in 1960.

Betsy then moved to Appleton and attended Lawrence University’s Conservatory of Music, where she graduated in 1964 with a Bachelor of Music degree. She specialized in string instruments, particularly the viola, but also played the violin, piano, and had a beautiful singing voice. Following college, Betsy taught music in the Manitowoc, Lake Geneva, and Beloit Turner school districts, and performed in symphony orchestras. She would give private music lessons for several decades, and mentored many aspiring musicians.

Betsy met Nathan Anderson in 1962 and they were married on August 10, 1968. After having her first child, Betsy became certified in early childhood education and worked at the Children’s Creative Center and ABC Playhouse Child Care in Beloit. She was also active in the Beloit Civic Theater, where her mother directed scores of plays.

Betsy was a deeply spiritual person, and recommitted herself to living in the literal traditions of Jesus Christ after a Cursillo retreat in 1985. Throughout her life, she remained a sustaining member of Atonement Lutheran Church, where she was baptized, confirmed, and married, and served in a variety of roles there, most notably as a member of Atonement’s Worship and Music Committee.

Betsy was perhaps best known for her boundless optimism and generosity, and lived her life in service to others. In addition to shepherding her mother and aunt through their own end-of-life journeys, she cared for her husband Nate who struggled with illness for several years, agreed to become the primary caregiver to her two grandchildren, had an open-

door policy for neighborhood latchkey kids, and provided shelter and love to a passel of stray and rescued dogs and cats. She was also passionate about traveling and made several forays around the United States, United Kingdom, and Canada.

Betsy is survived by her son, John Anderson of Madison, WI; daughter, Susan Anderson of Madison, WI; two grandchildren, Ezekiel and Eli Wheaton of Beloit, WI; brother, John Reinholz of Holmes Beach, FL; half-brother, Don Reinholz of Windsor, CO; half-brother, David Reinholz of Walla Walla, WA; and surrogate daughter, Gabrielle Ames of Broadhead, WI.

She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Nate, of 48 years; and brother, William Reinholz of Reading, PA.

Betsy found strength and solace in many deep and abiding relationships she built throughout her life, including but not limited to John and Les Blumerich, Beloit; Ann Gamble, Brampton, England; Pastor Tina Ray, Marshfield; Andrea Egerstaffer, Beloit; Laurie Brown, Beloit; David Ramsey, Denver, CO; and Robert and Cora Scholz, Northfield, MN.

A memorial service for Betsy will be held at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, January 12, 2019 at Atonement Lutheran Church, 901 Harrison Avenue, Beloit, WI. Visitation will be from 1:00 p.m. until the time of service Saturday at the church. Daley Murphy Wisch & Associates Funeral Home, 2355 Cranston Road, Beloit, WI, assisted the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers or other gifts of remembrance, Betsy wished that anyone who wants to honor her life make a donation to Atonement Lutheran Church, the Elizabeth "Betty" Reinholz Performing Arts Scholarship, administered by the Stateline Community Foundation, or the Humane Society of Southern Wisconsin. And, if you can, share a bright smile with a stranger and cultivate empathy and compassion.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.daleymurphywisch.com

Events

JAN **Visitation** 01:00PM - 02:00PM

12

Atonement Lutheran Church

901 Harrison Avenue, Beloit, WI, US

JAN **Memorial service** 02:00PM

12

Atonement Lutheran Church

901 Harrison Avenue, Beloit, WI, US

Comments



“ Sending my prayers and thoughts. I enjoyed my many, MANY, talks with Betsy on Sundays. We talked about anything and everything. She always gave me the perspective of "the protective grandmother" and I cherish the advice she gave me. As well as all the recipes she shared with me. She will be greatly missed.



Joleen F - January 11 at 03:29 PM



“ To the family of Betsy and also our Atonement Lutheran friends:
Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time as you gather at Atonement to celebrate Betsy's life. We can't get over the shock and sadness we have felt since we heard the surprising news of her unexpected death.
I had met her at Woodman's Saturday before Larry's last service and we chatted for a long time in the cracker aisle and discussed what kind of crackers Larry liked with his cheese! Then, Sunday morning I knelt at the altar next to her and the boys during communion. She always made me feel so comfortable and part of the family at Atonement!
She was so supportive during Larry's ministry there and enjoyed his musical talent. He enjoyed his many conversations with her regarding the life of the church. Please convey our love to all and know you're in our thoughts and prayers for comfort and strength. We hurt for the boys and also pray that Eli and Zeke that they are being cared for and given the help they need in dealing with Grandma's death. We know Betsy is at peace and in God's loving arms, but will be very much missed by so many, especially her family and her beloved Atonement Church family. We are comforted knowing that Pastor Tina will be leading the service. Our love, hugs, and prayers are with you all during this very sad time.
May you all feel God's love and peace,
Pastor Larry and Roseann Froemming

Larry and Roseann Froemming - January 11 at 01:36 PM



“ We offer sincere condolences to family , friends and pets so dear to Betsy. She was a vital part of the Atonement Lutheran church family and we grew up there with her many years ago. Celebrate a life well lived. May God continue to Bless her family.

Marilyn and Ken Shockley - January 09 at 11:26 AM



“ John and Penny , So sorry to hear of the passing of your Sister and sister in law. May she rest gently in the arms of our lord . Sharon (Hanamam) Edwards

Sharon Edwards - January 07 at 12:20 PM



“ John,

So sorry to hear of your mom's passing. Just saw her recently and have had many chats with her here at school. You and the boys are in my prayers.

Diane Lovaas - January 07 at 11:50 AM