

Carol Vandiver LARK
b 9 Sep 1946 - 7 Oct 2009
Wife of John Dale LARK



From: stltoday.com -- Lark, Carol Vandiver, passed from this world on Wednesday, October 7, 2009 at her home in Webster Groves. She was surrounded by her loving family: her devoted husband of 42 years, John Lark; her three adoring children, Jennifer, Jonathan, and Jeremy; her loving son-in-law, Brian Baetz; loving daughters-in-law, Annamarie and Tyler; as well as her four precious grandchildren, Zachary Baetz, Jacqueline Baetz, Collin Lark and Natalie Lark. She is also survived by five siblings, an even larger extended family, and a vast network of friends, colleagues, students, and supporters.

Carol lived 63 glorious and wonderful years. She battled a valiant fight with leukemia since January. She accomplished so much in her 63 years and touched many lives along the way. Anyone who met or even came in contact with Carol walked away a better or more enlightened person.

Carol was born in Tampa, Florida, but lived and traveled around the world as the daughter of a career Air Force aviator and World War II veteran. Being exposed to different cultures and experiences led to her life-long quest for knowledge and healing others. After marrying the love of her life, John, they settled in St. Louis in 1967 and raised their family. Once the children were in school, Carol began an educational path that led to her career as an Assistant Professor at Southern Illinois at Edwardsville, the Director of The Art Therapy Center in St. Louis, an accomplished artist and a community artist-teacher. She earned her Doctorate in Applied Psychology and Art Therapy in 1998. Her career centered around her research and life experiences in the healing powers of art and psychotherapy.

In addition to her extensive career accomplishments, her passions included sailing the open seas, baking her world-famous pies, tending to her gardens and caring for all her pets. Carol also loved the arts and was a huge supporter of the arts community in St. Louis. She added to the arts landscape through her artistic abilities, her talent at drumming, her skill in constructing and honoring the labyrinth as a healing tool, and in countless other contributions to her community, university, and patients.

Services: Visitation is Friday, Oct. 9th from 5 to 8 p.m. at the BOPP Chapel, 10610 Manchester Rd. in Kirkwood. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, Oct. 10th at 11 a.m. at BOPP Chapel. In addition, a grand memorial is currently being planned for November which will integrate all of Carol's passions and involve people from around the St. Louis arts community and abroad. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to www.caringbridge.org, Missouri Botanical Gardens, or St. Louis Leukemia, Lymphoma Society.