



M. Suzanne Oliver

January 25, 2023

Beloved and charismatic teacher, mentor to both young and old, rescuer extraordinaire of all animals large and small, and a true friend to many, M. Suzanne Oliver, 89, died peacefully at home on January 25, 2023 in Salisbury, North Carolina, after an extended illness.

Suzanne was born in Akron, Ohio, and later moved to Auburn, Washington, before retiring in Salisbury, North Carolina. She was preceded in death by her parents, Llyod and Marjorie Oliver, of Akron, Ohio. If you knew Suzanne, you know she will be welcomed at the Rainbow Bridge by the thousands of animals she had loved throughout her life, particularly dogs, cats, goats, and horses. She whispered right before she died that her horse Special Event would be the one to carry her into Heaven. A loving and cherished Godmother, Suzanne will be dearly missed by the many godchildren entrusted to her, especially Scott Thomas of Charlotte, NC, and Patrick Keller of Lyons, CO.

Suzanne taught school for a total of 42 years. She began her teaching career at St. Paul's, and the St. Mary's, and St. Sebastian's elementary schools in Akron, Ohio. After moving to Washington State, she taught at Olympic Junior High and then at Auburn Senior High School and Rainer Middle School. Suzanne absolutely loved being a teacher, and there was not a subject she did not teach in all these years. Testimony to her love of teaching, Suzanne enjoyed a unique and long-lasting friendship with former students even to the day she died.

A sincere thank you and appreciation to Carolina Caring and their Hospice care the last few months of Suzanne's life.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11 a.m. Friday, February 10, at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Salisbury, North Carolina, with Father John Eckert officiating.

In lieu of flowers memorials may be sent to Faithful Friends Animal Sanctuary, checks may be made to Friends of Rowan, P.O. Box 262, Salisbury, NC 28145-0262, memo line: Faithful Friends. (In doing this way all donations will be doubled.)

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Oliver family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

JL

“ Miss Oliver was adored and respected by her students for one simple reason, she chose to pair her genuine passion for teaching and her natural talent for helping students succeed. She was tough but fair and students appreciated the fact that she made them earn their grades. I did not always like anatomy and physiology, but I wanted that A. And she helped me earn every bit of it. Thank you for choosing to make me a better student.

John Langford - March 31, 2024 at 11:08 PM

MB

“ Myrna Brent lit a candle in memory of M. Oliver



Myrna & Brent - March 14, 2023 at 03:24 PM

PE

“ I am so very sad that Suzanne has left this earth. She is forever with me in the memories she left behind. Sitting around her big round kitchen table, listening to Dionne Warwick and working out the worlds problems and our own. She guided so many of us thru adolescence. She made this world a much better place. May her memory be a blessing.
Pelagia Kalgreen

pelagia - February 06, 2023 at 05:08 PM

DB

“ Suzanne— such a trusted colleague and fun team member. She brought insight to every department meeting and fun to every dull staff meeting. She was a pro, every day for every student. God bless he legacy. She made us all better.

Debbie Barlow - February 04, 2023 at 05:21 PM

HG

“ Helen Graf lit a candle in memory of M. Oliver



Helen Graf - February 02, 2023 at 06:54 PM

JP

“ I remember her as a teacher at Saint Pauls elementary school in Akron Ohio. I never had her, but the students that did have her thought she was a great teacher and loved her style. It was very much a change from having nuns in the lower grades. She was very athletic and coached the girls sports. I was very impressed by her love for animals and relationships with her student. My brother Joe Friedl had her in third, fifth, and seventh. She moved grades up with her students and was a mentor to them. She touched many lives. She was always, Mrs. Lutz and Saint Pauls.RIP

joanne phillips - January 31, 2023 at 05:00 AM

SM

“ She was a very popular teacher, loved by all, when I was a student in the '60's, at St. Paul's. She was kind and made learning fun. Rest in peace. Thank you for loving all the fur babies too ❤️❤️🙏🙏

Sherri Finkler Marzick - January 30, 2023 at 07:50 PM



“ *Divine Peace Bouquet was purchased for the family of M. Suzanne Oliver.*



January 28, 2023 at 05:05 PM



“ *My sincere condolences to the Oliver family 🌹. She was my all time favorite for 3 years back in the early 1960's at St. Paul's 🕊️! She even gave me a ride in I think it was a cool green 🌿 MGB classic car. She was such a caring teacher to her classes!*

*Peace, Harmony and Blessings,
Michael Pullo 🌟*

Michael Pullo - January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



She was a kind and loving person who has touched so many lives iam happy and thankful that for a brief time she was part of my life I know there is a special place for her god bless

bill abshire - January 30, 2023 at 07:26 PM

SP

“ I am sorry to hear of Ms. Oliver’s passing. She was a wonderful teacher and will be missed. She was my 7th grade science teacher at Olympic Junior High in Auburn, WA., and taught so many wonderful, hands on lessons. I’m sure we had a science book, but I don’t remember using it. Instead we investigated the world around us and completed fascinating experiments. One in particular has stuck with me, not because it was successful, but because it failed in a very dramatic way. To this day it reminds me to consider every aspect of my plans.

Thank you for believing in your students, Ms. Oliver! You are one of the best teachers I’ve ever had.

Sue Pierce - January 28, 2023 at 11:46 AM

MF

“ My condolences to the Oliver family.
I was very fortunate to have Suzanne as my teacher in 4th, 5th and 7th grades at St Paul's. She was my all time favorite teacher! Coming from a family of 10 she also taught some of my brothers and sisters. Two of my sisters played on Suzanne's St Paul's softball team.

She was an inspiration to all of us. Always well prepared in her profession and well liked. I will miss her as will the many kids she taught over her 42 years.

May her soul and all the souls of the faithful departed Rest In Peace.

Mike Factor

Mike Factor - January 28, 2023 at 08:47 AM