



Dr Judith "Judy" Councilll Ward

September 26, 1941 - June 1, 2022

It is with great sadness and much love that we say goodbye to our dear mother, beloved grandmother and loving friend. Dr. Judith "Judy" Councilll Ward, 80, of Phoenix, Arizona, passed in peace on June 1st, 2022, after a long battle with Alzheimer's Disease. Judy was born on September 26, 1941, in Pasadena, Texas, to Joseph Coby Councilll and Alice Rhea King Councilll. She was the second of three children. Judy graduated from Pasadena High School in 1959. While in high school she played the flute and won competitions at the regional and state level. As a young girl she rode the train by herself every summer from Pasadena to Conway, AR, to spend time with her aunt and uncle, Ruth & Dr. Charles Robinette. She enjoyed her summers with extended family and ultimately decided to attend the University of Central Arkansas (UCA), formerly Arkansas State Teacher's College, in Conway. Judy earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education in 1963. She was involved in a number of activities on campus including the marching band and Greek life. She pledged Sigma Kappa sorority in their first UCA pledge class, served as their President, and made many lifelong friends. Judy married Donald Arthur Ward on June 15, 1963. Judy and Don lived in Houston, TX, for the first ten years of their marriage, and Judy taught in Houston schools during that time. Judy and Don moved to Northwest Arkansas in July of 1973 to raise their two daughters, Susan Ward Rauhoff and Sara Ward Sheehan. In addition to raising her family, Judy was a tireless community volunteer at John Tyson Elementary (homeroom mom, Halloween

Carnival Chair, PTA President), led numerous Brownie and Girl Scout troops, and served on the NOARK Girl Scout Council board, now known as the Diamonds of AR, OK, and TX. The Ward family was active members of First United Methodist Church in Springdale, Arkansas. Judy served as class president of her Sunday school class for many years. Judy returned to the classroom in the spring of 1984, teaching seventh grade mathematics at Southwest Junior High School in Springdale, Arkansas, for twelve years. She then earned a Master's Degree in Education from the University of Arkansas (U of A) in 1995, graduating at the same time as her daughter, Sara, who also earned a Master's degree. Judy went on to earn a Doctoral Degree in Adult Education from the U of A and win a fellowship from the Rockefeller Foundation which funded her life's passion for mentoring teachers in the subject of math. She also served as a member and president of the Adult Numeracy Network (the professional organization for math educators who work in adult education in the United States and a partner affiliate with the National Council of Teacher of Mathematics). Judy retired to Phoenix, Arizona, in 2008. For many years in retirement, Judy volunteered helping adults earn their GED through local organizations such as UMOM by using her passion to help adults learn math. She was also an active member of North Scottsdale United Methodist Church in Scottsdale, AZ.

Survivors include his daughters: Susan Ward Rauhoff, her husband Lance and their children Will and Charlie of Phoenix, Arizona, and Sara Ward Sheehan, and her husband Jeff of Dallas, Texas. She is survived by one sister and her family, Marilyn Councill Greene, Onalaska, Texas, a nephew, Jason Councill and his family of Sugarland, Texas, and one niece, Cathryn Councill and her family of Pasadena, Texas.

Judy was preceded in death by her brother, Joseph "Joe" Coby Councill, Jr., her mother, Alice Rhea King Councill, and her father, Joseph Coby Councill.

Visitation will be at 9 am CT on June 25th, followed by a memorial service at 10 am CT at the Wasson Funeral Home in Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Interment will follow the service at Fairmount Cemetery, Gentry, Arkansas. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in loving memory of Judy Ward to the Alzheimer's Association (<https://www.alz.org>).

Cemetery Details

Fairmount Cemetery

Fairmount Cemetery
Gentry, AR

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 25. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (CT)

Wasson Funeral Home
441 U.S. 412
Siloam Springs, AR 72761
(479) 524-5131
wasson@wassonfuneralhome.com
<https://www.wassonfuneralhome.com>

Memorial Service

JUN 25. 10:00 AM (CT)

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Tribute Wall

CA

“ Judy was a dear neighbour in our community of Camello vista. We were ‘winter residents’ & every fall we looked forward to reuniting with our American friends, Judy in particular. I’ll always remember her great laugh & our close friendship. RIP. Carol

carol - July 09, 2024 at 05:15 PM

CK

“ Very sorry to hear about Judy. We went through a lot of the same thing with my mother. Our prayers are with your families and may God give you all special peace and strength in this difficult time. Bill King

CARL W.(Bill) King. - July 09, 2022 at 11:00 PM



“ White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Dr Judith "Judy" Council Ward.



June 22, 2022 at 08:10 PM

RP

“ Judy was one of my best friends in college and for many years until she passed. She was one of the first people I met when the ASTC Band arrived on campus a week before most students arrived. She touched many lives teaching; two of those were my own children at Southwest Junior High in Springdale. She loved her family and friends and will be missed by all of us.

Rita Penzo - June 07, 2022 at 10:50 PM