



Susan "Sue" Seyden

November 7, 1938 - November 7, 2023

Susan "Sue" K. Seyden, age 85, of Bourbonnais, went home to Heaven on her birthday, the evening of Tuesday, November 7, 2023, for the best birthday party ever.

She was born in California on November 7, 1938, the daughter of Charlie and Edith (Mann) Kreamer. On July 1, 1961, she married John "Hal" Seyden in Bakersfield, CA. Together, they were active in multiple Christian ministries, including camps, churches, and Gideons International. This commitment to Christ saw them move to Illinois to help their son start a new church ministry in Kankakee, IL. All who knew her described her as kind, sweet, selfless, and full of love.

Sue was a voracious reader, life-long learner, and lover of the arts. In her adult life, she practiced intricate needlepoint artwork, framing, and quilting. An avid musician, Sue could play the flute, piano, and string bass, which she played in the University of California, Berkley orchestra while a student there. Music was a lifelong passion, leading to becoming a piano teacher as an adult, and a square dancer later in life. Sue and her husband, Hal, loved to square dance. Sue even handmade their matching western shirt and dress outfits.

While music was her passion, teaching was Sue's mission in life. She viewed

teaching as God's ministry calling on her life. Sue was a junior high teacher for 35+ years. She began her career by teaching Native American children on the Paiute Reservation in the Sierra Nevada mountains, while Hal was a forest ranger in the Inyo National Forest. After moving to San Bernardino, CA, her ministry commitment led Sue to take underprivileged, inner-city students in Southern California to annual nature education camps in the local mountains, whale watching trips off the coast of San Diego, and academic competition events across Southern California.

In recent years, Sue truly embraced her life and friends at Westwood Oaks (Riverside Senior Living). She enjoyed her weekly book club and movie night, as well attending summer concerts in the park. Above all her passions in life, she loved her family, and really loved her grandchildren. She cherished the many family memories made at Kreamer Cabin in Shaver Lake, CA, that has been the vacation home for six generations of their family. Sue loved her family, and they loved her just the same. Her youngest grandson, Joshua, was her absolute best friend, and he considered his grandma his best friend as well. From the time he was little, he spent every single weekend at his grandma's house. Even through his teenage years, he visited and stayed over on the weekends, up until her passing.

Sue is survived by those who loved her, including her son, Ben (Jessica) Seyden of Bourbonnais; two daughters, Heather (Steve) Combs of Colorado Springs and Jenni (Ray) Kosse of Colton, CA; two siblings, Karen (Nick) Moore of Hermosa Beach, CA and John Kreamer of Sacramento, CA; sister-in-law, Betty (Seyden) Roberts; five grandchildren, Daniel Combs, Brandon (Becky) Combs, Andrew (Ashley) Seyden, Bethany Seyden, and Joshua Seyden; and two great-granddaughters, Taylor Combs and Harper Seyden.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Hal Seyden; and her parents, Charles and Edith Kreamer.

A memorial service for Sue will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023, at 10:00AM, at Westwood Oaks (100 Westwood Oaks Court, Kankakee, IL 60901). Reverend Ben Seyden will officiate.

Cremation rites were accorded.

Memorials may be made to Gideons International: www.gideons.org/donate.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV **22**. 10:00 AM (CT)

Westwood Oaks
100 Westwood Oaks Court
Kankakee, IL 60901

Tribute Wall

DK

“ *Dennis Kreamer lit a candle in memory of Susan "Sue" Seyden*



Dennis Kreamer - November 26, 2023 at 08:20 PM

DK

Wonderful lady she showed sweetness, smarts & kindness. I remember after 6 years of me being in the Navy active duty without me saying anything she said "6 years is enough". I thought that was funny but a bit true too-hee hee.

Dennis Kreamer - November 26, 2023 at 08:41 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Susan "Sue" Seyden.*



November 21, 2023 at 12:53 PM

TE

“ *The Best Team Ever planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan "Sue" Seyden.*

The Best Team Ever - November 20, 2023 at 01:02 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Susan "Sue" Seyden.



November 20, 2023 at 01:02 PM



“ Cynthia & Brian Groom; Jodi & Laban Pelz purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Susan "Sue" Seyden.



Cynthia & Brian Groom; Jodi & Laban Pelz - November 16, 2023 at 02:25 PM



“ My best friend Sue. Enjoyed our time before church services, our time together at Miller Rehab, Riverside hospital, and Citadel rehab. Though short lived I learned how amazing Sue was. God took his angel in such a peaceful way. Surrounded by love of her family. Till we meet again my sweet friend. I love you.



Theresa Miner - November 16, 2023 at 01:22 PM

“ A memorial can never cover all the things someone accomplished in their lives or the lives they touched. Here are a few thoughts I have of my parents.

The Seyden's hosted foreign exchange students, and were active in Girl Scouts for over 20 years. They had Bible studies in their home. They sponsored children through World Vision. They loved their beloved dogs and cats over the years. They were rarely without pets. You could count on Mom when you needed a shoulder to cry on and prayers to be said. Mom loved watching all kinds of shows on PBS and supported them every year. She made sure we received subscriptions to Guidepost and Angels magazines every year. I could never repay her for all the times she bailed me out financially. They had their hard times like losing their home to a series of floods. They were evacuated several times for fires. Their house was even struck by lightning. She also loved our spouses and was supportive of them as well.

She rarely had a bad or harsh word against someone else. She loved her ocean studies as well as her mountain studies. She sold encyclopedias, Amway, and other things I can't remember the names of. They gave away Bibles. She was very creative and spent a lot of time, and money, on her 6th grade classroom and students. She spent most nights and weekends grading papers and making lesson plans. She even did it in the car, while someone else drove, of course. Once she was your friend she was dedicated to you. She liked to read magazines with celebrity news and National Geographic. She collected the maps so she could find places she heard on TV or reading about. They loved to travel and see new places and meet new people. They went to Maine to make chairs. They cruised in Alaska and drove to Canada a few times. I think they visited most of the US.

There are countless times during the day I think I should call and tell her about something I want to share with her. I miss her so very, very much and want her back but I know she is resting with Jesus and dancing with Dad again. Until we meet again, Mom. I love you with all my heart. Goodbye for now. Jenni

Jenni Kosse - November 16, 2023 at 12:34 AM

CM

“ *Conner, Susan, Jud and Suzy Moore purchased the Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet for the family of Susan "Sue" Seyden.*



Conner, Susan, Jud and Suzy Moore - November 15, 2023 at 02:31 PM

KN

“ *Karen and Nick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Susan "Sue" Seyden.*

Karen and Nick - November 15, 2023 at 02:14 PM

KN

“ *Karen and Nick purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Susan "Sue" Seyden.*



Karen and Nick - November 15, 2023 at 02:14 PM

JK

“ *John Kreamer purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Susan "Sue" Seyden.*



John Kreamer - November 15, 2023 at 10:24 AM