

Marilyn Davidheiser
May 13, 1947 - March 1, 2023



Marilyn Potter Davidheiser, age 75, of Sewanee, died on Wednesday, March 1, 2023, in a memory care facility in Hendersonville, Tennessee, where she spent the last 14 months of her life.

She was born on May 13, 1947, in Berkeley, California, to Frederick and Lois Potter. Marilyn graduated from San Ramon High School in Danville, California, Chico State University in California, and Middle Tennessee State University where she earned her Master's Degree in Education.

Spending her junior college year in Mainz, Germany, she met her husband, Jim, whom she married on Aug. 2, 1969. They first settled in Newark, Delaware, where she taught German and English and gave birth to two children before they moved to The University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee.

Marilyn taught kindergarten at Good Shepherd Catholic School in Decherd, Tennessee, and then taught German and Spanish for 20 years at Franklin County High School in Winchester. She led trips for her students to Spain and Morocco, and received the Student Exchange Award from The Federation of German-American Clubs after placing students in German exchange programs for many years. Marilyn loved her students and colleagues and was dearly loved in return. In addition to teaching, Marilyn was an avid gardener, lover of nature and her grandchildren, and devoted Catholic.

She was a talented musician playing both the piano and guitar and sang in the Sewanee Chorale. Marilyn was an active member of the Cumberland Center for Justice and Peace and had a great heart for service. Accompanied by her gracious young daughter, who never once protested, she often made time to visit sick, lonely, and elderly neighbors and community members.

Marilyn will be remembered by all who knew her for her kindness and humility towards everyone she encountered. Marilyn was preceded in death by her parents and older brother, Rick Potter.

She is survived by her husband, Jim; children, Mark and Carolyn (David); younger brother, Bryan; grandchildren, Evangeline and James; and many nieces and nephews.

A requiem mass will be celebrated at Good Shepherd Catholic Church in Decherd on Saturday, March 25, 2023, at 10:30 a.m. A private graveside service for the family will take place separately.

From compassioncremations.com, the website for Compassion Funeral & Cremation Services, 6949 Charlotte Pike, Suite 104, Nashville, TN 37209.