



Emilie Benner

July 31, 1940 - September 15, 2015

Emilie Benner, 75, passed away peacefully surrounded by her family after a battle with illness. Emilie was born in Summit, NJ to Leeden and Margaret Benner. She grew up in Elizabeth, NJ. She spent her summers attending Girl Scout Camp, and eventually went onto be a Girl Scout Camp Director.

She graduated from Newark State College in 1962 with a Special Education Degree and taught special needs children for her entire career. She was recognized twice as the Teacher of the Year, in both NJ and UT. She always had a big heart for her special kids that went beyond the school walls, she coached a Special Olympics team from 1970-1977 and was the Girl Scout Leader for a special needs Girl Scout Troop.

She moved to St. George in 1980 where she eventually lived with her sister, Betsy, and Betsy's three children, Thom, Sterling, and Meg. Emilie was actively involved in raising her niece and two nephews, and was a beloved third parent to them.

She was an active church member, and was very involved at the First Southern Baptist Church for over 20 years where she taught Sunday school and Vacation Bible School. At the time of her passing, she had found a new church family at the Shepard of the Hills United Methodist Church.

Emilie retired from teaching in 2000, and had an active retired life. She spent her time crocheting, reading, bowling, watching "Walker, Texas Ranger", going to concerts and plays, and taking cruises with her family. She loved spending time with her great nieces and nephews, and always had a Hallmark Card for every occasion.

She is survived by her two sisters, Margie and Betsy, her two nephews Ken and Thom, her two nieces Nikki and Meg, and eight grandnieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life ceremony will be held for her Saturday, December 5th, 2015 at 2:00 pm at Shepard of the Hills United Methodist Church, 920 W. Tonaquint Drive, St. George, Utah.

You can send condolences to the family online at www.serenitystg.com. Family asks that in lieu of flowers you send donations to the ASPCA or the Jubilee House at Dixie Regional Medical Center.