



Barbara Lagassa Tack

October 26, 1942 - September 9, 2021

Durham - Barbara Lagassa Tack, 78, of Riverwoods, Durham, died unexpectedly on September 9, 2021. Born in Sheboygan, WI on October 26, 1942 to the late George A. and Dorothy (Zabinski) Lagassa, she is predeceased by her first husband Richard Roach (2020) and her second husband Christiaan Tack (1999).

Barbara graduated from high school in Longmeadow, MA and from Lake Erie College, following which she settled in Boston, working initially as a copy editor at Arthur D. Little, a sales associates at Harbor Design, and an English teacher at Littleton High School. As a single woman, she lived variously on Beacon Hill, in Winthrop, and in Allston, MA. After marrying her first husband in 1969 they settled in Houston, TX, where her son Jason was born. The couple separated in 1973.

As a determined single mom, Barbara began a successful career as an interior designer with the Herbert Wells Design firm in Houston, where she met her 2nd husband, Christiaan Tack, a diplomat with the Belgian consulate there. They married in 1983 and lived in Houston and then Palos Verdes Estate, CA where they raised her son and shared their enthusiasm for reading, sailing, and windsurfing.

The couple moved to Overijse, Belgium before moving to Jakarta, Indonesia, where Christiaan oversaw the programs of the European Patent Office. While living in Jakarta, Barbara edited the newsletter for the local ex-pat community and created Les Idees, her own painted furniture export business, while eagerly undertaking her role as a diplomat's wife. After several years, the couple moved back to Europe, settling in Starnberg, Germany, within commuting distance of the European Patent Office headquarters in Munich. After Christiaan's death, Barbara moved to Exeter, NH to be near her family. In New Hampshire, she was employed as a copy editor at Seacoast Media Group until she retired. She moved to Riverwoods at Durham in 2019.

Barbara will be remembered for her inquiring mind, her love of poetry, her creativity, her persistence, her talking points, and her strength of character. She was an extremely

talented writer who could always characterize life's joys and tribulations with meaning, profundity, and humor. She was a woman of great style, humor, and adventure and will be sorely missed.

She is survived by her son Jason Roach, his wife Aki (Takanezawa), and their daughter Leah of Torrance, CA. She also leaves her beloved brother George Lagassa and his wife Peri of North Hampton, NH and her cherished nieces Phelps and Beach and husband Mike (Silver) and their daughter Carlin.

Services will be private. Arrangements are by the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, Hampton.

Comments



“ I was sad to hear of Barbara's passing. I enjoyed having her as a friend and am glad I met her at our exercise classes at Curves. I will miss our lunches and many email conversations.

Jean Power - September 22, 2021 at 11:03 AM



“ I have known Barbara for over 60 years. She was an adventurous, stylish lady with an appreciation of the theatrical. She was a wonderful writer and designer, creative and always discerning.

Sadly missed,

Peggy Craft McFarland

Jack Gendron - September 21, 2021 at 06:09 PM



“ I am sad to read of Barbs passing. I think I notarized her name every month for as long as I can remember. Always a treat to see her, especially around Christmas as she would supply our office with Danish!

LeeAnn Simpson
Asst. Exeter Town Clerk

LeeAnn Simpson - September 21, 2021 at 11:25 AM



“ Although we didn't spend as much time together as I would have liked, it didn't take long to realize how smart, creative, and imaginative Barbara was. She had a quick wit and always spoke her mind. Plus, she wrote the best Christmas cards ever-- full of care, humor, and feeling!

Bob Roetger

Bob Roetger - September 19, 2021 at 11:22 AM



“ Barbara was a wonderful friend. For over 60 years, I have been privileged to know this smart, funny, creative lady. Often with a flourish of theatricality, Barbara lived her life with zest and style.

It is with deep sorrow that I offer my condolences to her family, Jason, Aki and Leah, George, Peri and their cherished daughters,

Barbara, I am so grateful to have been a part of your life.

Peggy Craft McFarland

Peg McFarland - September 18, 2021 at 05:11 PM