

OBITUARY
Dorothy Elfers
Nov 18, 1943 - Apr 10, 2017



Dorothy Elfers

Dorothy Earle “Dottie” Elfers, 73, of Rock Springs, Wisconsin died on Monday, April 10, 2017, from complications of metastatic breast cancer.

Dorothy was born on Nov. 18, 1943. She was a longtime resident of Rock Springs with her husband, Dr. John Elfers, who preceded her in death on July 2, 2016. Dottie was an avid outdoorswoman, farmer, animal lover, equestrian athlete, and friend to family, her horse community and town community. Dottie was born in Montclair, New Jersey, to Dorothy and Clarence Kreider and was raised in a family of four siblings in Denver, Colorado. She graduated from St. Mary’s High School in Faribault, Minnesota, and attended Colorado University in Boulder, Colorado.

She flew for Frontier Airlines as a flight attendant for 18 years and worked at the Denver Zoo as a zookeeper for primates and large cats before moving to Wisconsin with her husband, John. They settled on their farm where Dottie kept horses, sheep, llamas, and a variety of cats and dogs. They shared their life with two exchange students, Marie Hallberg of Sweden and Anastasia Guscina of Moldova, as well as Tyler Kreiter of DePere, who spent many summers with them helping on the farm. Her good friend, Sherri Lower, was at her bedside when she passed.

Dottie was first diagnosed with breast cancer 25 years ago. Even when she was in remission, Dottie would spend much of her time supporting other cancer survivors and groups. She gave generously to the Susan Komen Foundation and The American Cancer Society and never forgot her cancer friends in their fight. She was grateful for every day and kept her positive, exuberant attitude throughout her life.

Dottie is survived by her sisters, Mary Kreider and Helen (David) Skidmore; her brothers, Jim (Anita) Kreider and Tom (Paula) Kreider; her brother-in-law, Hank (Deanna) Elfers; as well as, eight nieces and nephews and six great-nieces and great-nephews.

There will be a celebration of life gathering from 4-7 p.m., Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at the Hoof Funeral Home in Reedsburg. A private family burial will be held. In lieu of gifts, flowers and plants, please make donations to St. John Lutheran Church in Loganville or Agrace HospiceCare in remembrance of Dottie.