



Suzanne King

November 20, 1942 - February 15, 2023

Beloved mother, sister, and friend, Suzanne King died February 15, 2023, at the Markey Cancer Center in Lexington. A native West Virginian, Suzanne had made Kentucky her home for decades, eventually settling on a farm in in rural Franklin County.

Born in Charleston to Carlin Dale and Delila Thompson King on November 20, 1942, Suzanne grew up in “chemical valley,” a concentration of large petrochemical plants along the Kanawha River Valley, where her father worked. Still, she recalled her childhood with great fondness for her father’s ingenuity and her mother’s steadfastness. From them, she learned how to build a rich life without benefit of riches.

Suzanne is survived by her beloved daughter, Marion Mooney Moore (Steven); her sisters, Christena King Amey and Sarah King, both of Frankfort; and 12 nieces and nephews. Suzanne was preceded in death by her brother Robert Ray King.

An extensive network of friends, “the Sisterhood of Suzanne,” also mourns her passing. They remember her as an effervescent, joyous lover of people, nature, elegant food, and, above all, a good time had by all. Dozens of people attended her long-running “Chili Cookoffs,” reveled in her oyster-shucking parties, circled huge bonfires at her farm, and happily celebrated life’s

landmarks with her. She also loved to travel, especially to the beach and the warmth of the sun in the company of good friends.

An entrepreneur, a gourmet cook, a builder, a master of difficult software, Suzanne was always eager to learn and hone new skills. At the once renowned Thiel Audio of Lexington, where the elegance of their wood cabinetry became a trademark, Suzanne gained cabinetmaking skills. She would market those skills at Precision Woodworking, a business she helped start with friends in Frankfort. Exquisite pieces of furniture and elegant downtown fixtures are testaments to the quality of her work from that time. From there, Suzanne moved into state government where she worked for the KATS network, which developed assistive technology for the blind and other people with disabilities. She became a lifelong advocate for people with disabilities, gleaming the spark of joy even in those with profound limitations.

When the agency was restructured, rather than move, Suzanne chose to rely on her contracting skills, refurbishing and restoring rooms and entire houses. When a desk job began to look good, Suzanne accepted a post with the Kentucky Long-Term Policy Research Center, a futures-oriented think tank attached to the legislative branch. There, she became nearly indispensable, growing a receptionist post into that of graphic designer, book builder, and conference planner, among other things. Unafraid of a challenge whether scaling a ladder to dizzying heights, managing the construction of a house, or planning an annual conference that hundreds of people attended, she gave it her all.

A seemingly indestructible force, Suzanne met cancer with enough courage and fortitude to defeat it more than once. Ultimately, the treatments did serious harm. But she remained grateful to her many doctors and nurses, and the caregivers of Hospice. The love of family and friends sustained her during the later years of her life, and a beautiful and extraordinary cat named Oreo

entertained and cheered them all.

A service of remembrance and celebration of her life will be held at the Ruritan Club on Devil's Hollow Road (KY 1005) in Choateville on March 16, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. A reception will follow.

Arrangements are under the direction of Harrod Brothers Funeral Home & Crematory.

Previous Events

Celebration

MAR **16**. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Choateville Ruritan Club
880 Devils Hollow Road
Frankfort, KY 40601

Tribute Wall



“ *Suzanne King*

October 06, 2023 at 03:15 PM



“ *Katie Risen lit a candle in memory of Suzanne King*



Katie Risen - March 21, 2023 at 03:50 PM



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Suzanne King.*



March 16, 2023 at 08:39 AM



“ *Anne Winn Vasant lit a candle in memory of Suzanne King*



Anne Winn Vasant - February 28, 2023 at 12:10 PM

AV

Suzanne was an amazing woman, mother, sister ... and so much more! She was the epitome of independence and was so multi-talented. She loved this life, and her spirit will definitely live on! RIP sweet soul

Anne Winn Vansant - February 28, 2023 at 12:13 PM

KJ

“*Four generations of my family have known Suzanne and my youngest daughter was amazed when she visited and learned Suzanne had built her own home. Suzanne was an amazing woman and I'm glad we all got to spend time with her through the years. She's gonna be missed.*

Krista Hayden Jackson - February 27, 2023 at 07:04 PM

BM

“*Suzanne was a remarkable woman. I am praying for her and for Marion.*

Betty Mitchell - February 24, 2023 at 04:42 PM

SS

“*Suzanne will always be remembered and will always be missed. She was larger than life and an example for all independent women. I remember many years of good times with Suzanne, Marion and also Nino, Suzanne's mom who clearly contributed to Suzanne's fun-loving spirit and also her strength. One of the things that I admire about Suzanne was the way she was able to do things which I thought only men could do, and she could do these things very well...building her house is just one example. My thoughts and sympathies are with Marion, Sara, Chris and their families, as well as Suzanne's many loyal friends. Raise a glass, have a toke and think of Suzanne because surely she would be doing the same for you if she could.*

Sharon Smith - February 22, 2023 at 07:27 PM

JO

“ *What a great lady and friend. Rest in peace. She borrowed my live trap one time to catch some raccoons. they might have been the same raccoons I trapped and escorted to the "other" side of the river when I lived downtown. Strength to family and friends. Jaap van der Oort*

jaap van der Oort - February 22, 2023 at 03:43 PM

MB

“ *My Aunt Suzanne, was a remarkably fierce an independent matriarchal type, in her hay days made the likes of Sophia Loren and Raquel Welch look average with a natural beauty not attained with lighting or make-up. She taught me the definition of rebellion, autonomy, and uncompromising confidence as she effortlessly took charge and excelled in every journey she chose for herself. What she loved most was life, her daughter, her sisters, and she lived every second with passion. She was truly free for she lived her life exactly as she intended. She has been a major inspiration to me.*

Michelle Bernice Burch - February 22, 2023 at 03:16 PM

MB

“ *Her parents named her, Linda Sue King.*

Michelle Bernice Burch - February 22, 2023 at 02:54 PM

JL

“ *Jennifer Luttrell lit a candle in memory of Suzanne King*



Jennifer Luttrell - February 22, 2023 at 11:07 AM

CM

“ *Compliment old friend was fond of saying fits Suzanne perfectly - She was a truly unique individual. Will never forget her and shall always love her. She was my sister by another mother.*

Ceci Mitchell - February 21, 2023 at 06:24 PM