



Sue Ann Peterson

February 20, 1935 - January 18, 2025

Sue Ann Peterson passed peacefully at her home of 70 years on January 18, 2025, with tender care provided by her family, Kaweah Hospice and Visiting Angels. Sue Ann is remembered as an optimistic, faithful, resilient, intelligent, hardworking, thoughtful and generous example for us all. Her ever ready, unforgettable beautiful smile defined her person and her approach to Life.

Sue Ann was born to Jim and Marada Coopman on February 20, 1935 in Visalia, California, and her sister Jamey Lynn was born three years later. She graduated from Mills College with a Degree in Music and married Marshall Reid Wanzer in 1955. Their family of four children; Jim, Elizabeth, Mary and Jane soon followed. Sue Ann was a dedicated wife, mother and homemaker. She gardened, canned, baked bread, sewed, knitted, taught Sunday School, taught each of her children to play piano and somehow made it all look easy. In the midst of raising her family, she went back to college and earned her RN Degree in the first nursing class of COS. We were so very proud of her. After Marshall's death in 1977, she took over the farming of Edgewood Orchards, and with the help and tutelage of kind neighbor farmers and a lot of determination, she became a successful agribusiness woman. In 1978 she married Calvin Baldwin and they enjoyed many wonderful years farming together, traveling abroad, enjoying opera and celebrating their families. They enjoyed many trips to her favorite get-away, the family Beach Cabin in Capitola. Cal passed away in 1996. Sue Ann later married Arthur Peterson.

Sue Ann's dedication to her faith was paramount in her life. Wherever she was, whether at home, traveling abroad or at the beach cabin, she sought out an Episcopal Church for Sunday service. She was sent to Laos by the church to teach English as a second language, and considered it a privilege and an adventure. Sue Ann was especially devoted to St. Clements Anglican Church in Woodlake where she served as organist, vestry member, staff support and legendary lemon bar maker. Her church family meant a great deal to her. She gave relentlessly of her time and talent and her generosity in the community knew no bounds. We are all very grateful for the gift of her Life, and the gift of her Love which forever resides in each of us.

Sue Ann's immediate family members include: Sister, Jamey Francis Children, Grandchildren: James Wanzer, deceased(Bette) Krista, Sarah Elizabeth Klein(Arnie) Matthew, Sean Mary Wanzer-Simonds(Tim) Benjamin, Caleb Jane Sorensen(Brad) Aaron, Megan Greatgrandchildren: Clark, Cambria, A.J., Marshall, Luca, Liam, Jacob, Owen, Isabella and Hazel Stepchildren, Step- Grandchildren: Libby Foucht, Lindsey, Hillary Anthony Silveira(Mary) Angela, Christopher Sue Ann had numerous extended family members who each know their special place in her heart.

A family church service is planned for February 1, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at St Clements Anglican Church, Woodlake. A Celebration of Life Luncheon will follow at 11:30 at 137 Events, 137 South E. St. In Exeter. Sue Ann's favorite color was pink so we encourage all who would like, to wear a pink accent of some sort. For those who wish to make a donation, Open Arms Hospice House in Visalia and the Visalia Pregnancy Crisis Center are suggested.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Funeral

FEB 1. 10:00 AM (PT)

St Clements Anglican Church
498 N Valencia Blvd
Woodlake, CA 93286

Celebration of Life

FEB 1. 11:30 AM (PT)

137 Events
137 South E. St.
Exeter, CA 93221

Tribute Wall

CL

“ I worked for Sue Ann at Edgewood Orchards in the mid-nineties, tending her walnut trees. I remember her as a very friendly, gracious lady, always ready to share a smile and a kind word. Working for her is a pleasant memory for me.

Charlie Lockhart - October 13, 2025 at 03:42 PM

SC

“ I was Director of St. Clement's Day Care Center for 35 years, and Sueann was often on the Board of Directors. She was always available to help in any way and I often turned her for a dose of her no-nonsense wisdom. She played the organ and looked so feminine as she buzzed around in her little sports cars, but she was also one tough lady! I admired her and felt privileged to be her friend.

Sandy Crawford - January 30, 2025 at 12:13 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sue Ann Peterson.



January 29, 2025 at 10:30 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Sue Ann Peterson.

January 29, 2025 at 10:30 AM

LC

“ I had the good fortune to spend one summer living at Sue Ann's Edgewood Orchards home while I was in between colleges. I have many fond memories of that summer, but the one that comes to mind most when I think of Sue Ann is the morning routine.

Theirs was a household of early risers. Even on Saturdays! As she walked softly down the hallway she would gently say, "Girls, time to get up". She would continue to the kitchen to get coffee and breakfast started. And I would linger in bed for a little while longer.

Then she would call out from the kitchen, a little louder and a little firmer, "Breakfast almost ready." By this point I knew that I needed to get up and double-time it to get ready and get myself to the table.

On a few occasions I heard the dreaded, "Breakfast on the table". If that last one was meant for me I knew that I had already started my day off on the wrong foot.

Breakfast at Sue Ann's was her love language. Every day started with a real, hot and delicious meal. Grab and go was not an option there. Meals didn't start until everyone, family and guests, was seated at the table. And they always began with a prayer.

I admired Sue Ann for her strength and her softness. She was kind, compassionate, nurturing, intelligent and gracious.

Well done, Sue Ann. You clearly loved your life and lived your love. Enjoy paradise. You've earned it.

Fondly,

Lorrie Coey

Lorrie Coey - January 25, 2025 at 10:54 PM

CS

“ *Our condolences to Sue Ann’s family. Although we didn’t see her often, she always had a smile and a few moments to chat. Sorry for your loss. Joe & Connie Sing*

connie sing - January 25, 2025 at 12:52 PM



“ *What a beautiful tribute to a beautiful life well lived. I never knew her, but I know her daughter, Jane. Jane you were blessed to have such a kind, talented, friendly, intelligent mom. She must have been a great mother, because you take after her. I'm sorry for your loss, but happy for your memories. Love, Dorothy D.*

Dorothy Schwocho Doswald - January 25, 2025 at 12:35 PM