



Patricia O'Malley Walker

MAR 29, 1943 - NOV 8, 2022



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Patricia O'Malley Walker

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Patricia (Patty) O'Malley Walker, 79, of Tucson, Arizona passed away unexpectedly on November 8, 2022.

Patty was born March 29, 1943 to Marjorie Scott Dollens and Michael O'Malley. She attended the University of California, Berkeley where she received a Bachelor's degree in English. She later received a Master's Degree in English from Miami University of Ohio, and a Master's in Library Science from the Ohio State University.

While at Berkeley, Patty met the love of her life, James (Jim) Walker. She famously proposed to him at the end of their first date, and after requesting time to think it over, he accepted on their second date. They were married on October 30, 1965 and had over 53 happy years together..

Patty had a long and distinguished career as a university librarian at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. She retired in 2006 and began an active retirement of travel and volunteer service. She particularly enjoyed her volunteer work for Reading Seeds, helping second graders learn to read.

Throughout her life, Patty was passionate about travel. With her family, her husband, or with friends, she visited over 26 countries across five continents. She had many adventures, from hanggliding above Rio de Janeiro, to sea kayaking in New Zealand, to cruising on a sailing yacht around the Greek Islands.

Other passions included her beloved dogs, gardening (she created beautiful gardens wherever she lived), reading, politics (she was particularly proud of her work on Barack Obama's 2008 campaign), and attending concerts and live theater performances.

Patty made friends wherever she went and maintained many lifelong friendships. She loved her friends. She adored her siblings, children and grandchildren.



Obituary

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Patty was preceded in death by her parents and her beloved husband.

Patty is survived by her children, Kathy Walker of Tucson, Arizona and Chris (May) Walker of Denver, Colorado, her grandsons, Lou Bodenhemier, Sam Bodenhemier, and Daniel Walker, seven siblings and many nieces and nephews.

There will be a small ceremony at a later date for immediate family members. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, donations be sent to [Planned Parenthood](#) , [The Humane Society](#) or any of the other myriad organizations that Patty supported.



Tribute Wall

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WR

Wright State Retirees posted:

The Wright State University Retirees Association extends our condolences to the family of Pat Walker. We also wish to acknowledge her years of service to our university. Many of us considered Pat a friend and were saddened to learn of her death.

November 30 at 2:47 AM

SW

Susan Wehmeyer posted:

When my husband and I married, we barely knew Pat. I was touched and astonished when she and Jim gave us a lovely wedding present. Little did we know that Pat would become a major force in our work life. She inspired me to serve on the WSU staff council and overall had a huge impact on the direction of my career. I will never forget her— and we still use that wedding present every day!

November 26 at 6:35 AM

AP

Alex Pittman posted:

Pat was of crucial help to me and my library at Wright State Lake Campus Library in Celina. She was a tremendous library professional and wonderful human being!! May she Rest In Peace! Alex Pittman

November 20 at 4:48 AM

SW

Sue Weldon posted:

Sharing many miles to and from library science classes, Patty and I shared hours of laughter and tears. I didn't know until today that she proposed to Jim like I proposed to my husband, Bill. Kathy and Chris your mom was an amazing friend and mentor. I'll miss her.

November 19 at 10:44 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Patricia by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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