



Carole Ann Sunada

September 13, 1941 - December 24, 2023

Carol Ann Sunada was born September 14th, 1941 in Newark, Ohio to George Marvin Freeman and Eileen Cecilia Kelly Freeman. She was the firstborn and was followed by two sisters, Sharon and then Debbie.

Carol worked for the Dept. of Defense as a secretary which found her in a position in Paris, France.

There she met her future husband, Leo Sunada. They maintained a friendship even though they both traveled around different locations throughout the US and Europe. They were married on July 25th, 1967.

With both working in the Dept of Defense, they worked in France, England, and eventually in Germany where they stayed for 23 years. Their first son Mori was born in England, and their second son Jiro was born in Germany. While Leo worked as a school administrator for the overseas school system for the Dept of Defense, Carol was secretary for the General and head of the department that welcomed all of the new military people to the base, as well as hosting all of the high up generals and others at their home on regular occasions. Due to Leo's health issues, they moved to Wenatchee in 1992, and in 1995 moved to Issaquah to be closer to Specialists for his heart condition. After a short stay in Bellevue, they returned to Wenatchee in 1996. After losing her son Jiro in April 1996 and then Leo in Dec 1996, Carol spent some

time with a grief support group in Bellevue called "The Compassionate Friends". Upon returning to Wenatchee, Carol devoted her life and all of her time (a considerable amount of her own money) to starting up a Wenatchee Valley chapter of The Compassionate Friends. She ran this non-profit grief support group successfully from 2006 to 2022 until Covid and Bone cancer forced her to close it down.

Carol was a long-time member of the Wenatchee Kennel Club and raised 4 AKC award-winning

German Shepards (Imka, Buddy, Tara, and Jax).

Carol was a tough woman with a heart of gold who weathered the storm each day with a smile on her face and reminded us that God is in control and told me that frequently.

Carol was preceded in death by her husband Leo in 1996, son Jiro in 1996, son Mori in 2021, parents George and Eileen Freeman, and Father and Mother in Law Morijiro and Toku Sunada.

She is survived by sisters Sharon McFarlane of Mountlake Terrace, and Debbie Winkel of Chelan.

Also survived by her self-proclaimed many times "best friend, dine-out partner, and daughter she never had" Lisa Earhart. I will miss your friendship, wisdom, and stories about Europe, but I am rejoicing for your reunion in Heaven with Leo, Mori, and Jiro

Written by your friend Lisa

Cemetery Details

St Joseph's Catholic Church

220 Mountain Park Blvd SW
Issaquah, WA 98027

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JAN 26. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM (PT)

St Joseph's Catholic Church
220 Mountain Park Blvd SW
Issaquah, WA 98027

Graveside service to follow

Tribute Wall



“ I met Carol 20 years ago. She the newsletter editor for The Seattle Chapter of The Compassionate Friends, a national organization that supports parents who've experienced the death of a child. Sibs and grandparents are supported as well. When Carol moved to Wenatchee, she started a chapter and several times over the years she invited me to give grief workshops and facilitator training. With a caring heart and a listening ear she gave support to many who miss her today. Barbara Weaver's comment, "She was a force to be reckoned with" fits Carol to a "T." I know she's having a good time up there with sons Jiro and Mori and husband Leo. Thanks, Carol for all you've done in helping others. Hugs, Bob Baugher

Bob Baugher - August 01, 2024 at 06:45 PM

CD

“ My deepest sympathy on the news of Carol's passing. She was a wonderful lady and I have fond memories of spending many times with Carol, Leo, Jiro and Mori in Germany. I was a childhood friend of Mori's. They were a great family and always a joy to be around. May they all rest in peace together. Chris Diehl, Elizabethtown KY

Chris Diehl - January 26, 2024 at 06:29 PM

CW

“ I have fond memories of Aunt Carol. We cousins met her in Wyoming when she introduced us to Baby Mori. Our family got fun gifts when Uncle Leo and Aunt Carol were in Europe. When I went to Washington for Uncle Leo’s funeral, the Seattle airport closed an hour after I landed because of a few inches of snow. Then the power went out, and his service had to be postponed. Aunt Carol knew Uncle Leo wanted us to see the humor in the situation. He couldn’t be buried in December because a backhoe couldn’t get to the cemetery. Our family visited her during a Lake Chelan trip and a skiing vacation. I remember her beautiful dogs and hearing of the dog shows. I know she cared for her parents when they needed her service. She was such a good person to know.

Cheryl Whitelaw - January 25, 2024 at 05:52 PM



“ Carol was a force to be reckoned with! Thank you for all your hard work for those who lost a child and your care of those belonging to The Compassionate Friends.

Barbara Weaver - January 23, 2024 at 01:10 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Heritage Memorial Chapel Funeral Home - January 22, 2024 at 04:58 PM

LE

“ I will miss your friendship and wisdom, but I rejoice in the reunion with your beloved 3 kings who left you behind. Rest in peace my friend, you will not be forgotten.

Lisa Earhart - January 08, 2024 at 07:17 PM