

## Mary Carol Petersen, 76

Jan. 1933 - Sept. 7, 2009

**SAN RAFAEL, CA** — Our loving mom, Mary Carol Petersen, passed away peacefully at home of natural causes on September 7, 2009. She was 76.

Mary Carol was born in the winter of January 1933 to Chester and Alice (Vinding) Haase at her grandparents' home in Harlan. Her father called her Mary Christmas Carol because her birthday was so close to Christmas. Early childhood was spent on a farm in Benson, MN. She graduated from Harlan High School in 1951 and from Hamline University in St. Paul, MN in 1954 to become a Registered Nurse.

Mary Carol married her hometown sweetheart, Robert L. "Pete" Petersen, in July 1954. They moved to southern California and bought their first home in Culver City. They moved on to live in Palos Verdes, CA, Phoenix, AZ, and Westchester, PA before settling in San Rafael, CA in 1966. Once in Northern California, they never looked back.

Mary Carol's life was about family and community. Family get-togethers were frequent and joyous. She was a committed member of St. Luke Presbyterian Church, most recently serving on the Pastor Nominating Committee. Mary Carol is survived by her many friends with whom she played bridge, shared meals, went on vacations, and had loads of fun. For the past 55 years she continued to keep in touch with dear friends from Nurse's Training through a Round-robin letter. Mary Carol was a member of the Marin Symphony League and Money Bags Investment Club. In her professional life as a nurse, Mary Carol cared for patients at Nazareth House, Novato Community Hospital, and Ross Hospital. Mary Carol will be remembered for her kindness, generosity, and determination.

Mary Carol was predeceased by her husband, Pete, in 1988. She is survived by her three daughters, Lisa (Petersen) Williams and Peter Williams, Wendy Petersen and Gerald King, and Karen (Petersen) Scott and Richard Scott. Mary Carol adored her five grandchildren, Nicholas Kehrlein, Allison Williams, Robyn Williams, Robert Scott, and Julia Scott. She is also survived by her brother and his wife, Larry Haase and Judy Haase of Issaquah, WA, her sister, Pamela Haase of Rochester, MN, and nephews Scott Haase and Chet Haase and their families.

Mary Carol's life was celebrated at a Memorial Service at 11:00 am on Friday, September 18, 2009 at St. Luke Presbyterian Church, 10 Bayview Drive, San Rafael, CA 94901. Mary Carol requested that memorial contributions be made to St. Luke Presbyterian Church.

