



Margaret Pilar Spurlin

January 24, 1942 - February 17, 2017

On February 17, 2017 Margaret Pilar Batten Spurlin passed away in Manassas, from complications from lung cancer. She is survived by her son Kevern Spurlin & his wife Julie, and their children Ellie, Jack & Ben, and her daughter Jennifer Bertulaitis & her husband Pete, and their children Eric & Meredith. In addition, she is survived by her younger brother Tony Batten, and five first cousins (Jennifer, Fauzi, Patricia, Theo & Paul), as well as further extended family, all of whom live in the United Kingdom. She also had some dearly beloved friends who were like family to her: Kathy & Jim, Cathy, Nancy, Linda, Bev & Dean.

Maggie was born in January 1942 in Jerusalem, Palestine, to Lucien Espaniolo and Nada Canaan. Her grandfather, Dr. Tewfik Canaan, was a prominent Palestinian doctor who counted people of all faiths as friends and patients, and her grandmother was Margot Eilender Canaan. Her parents divorced in 1947 and she went to Lyndley School, a boarding school in the UK, now known as Hawley Place. She spent holidays with her aunt in the UK, and graduated in 1957. She went on to Leeds University, earning a degree in Institution Management. Her mother remarried two times, and Maggie was adopted by both Ray Allen & Kevern Batten, whom she considered her father. Her mother passed away in Spain in 1988 & Kevern in Cornwall, England in 2000.

In 1964, while living and teaching in Beirut, Lebanon, she met and married Frederick Floyd Spurlin, an American from the Washington DC area who was

working for the US Government's Defense Mapping Agency. They returned briefly to the United States, living in South Carolina, and then went to Africa for his job. They spent time in Nigeria and Sudan, and their daughter Jennifer was born in 1967 at Kagnew Air Station in Ethiopia. After her birth, they lived in Africa for almost 3 more years, returning to the DC area in 1970, in time for their son Kevern to be born in Washington DC. Shortly after that, they moved to Manassas, where Maggie resided ever since. They were married for almost 31 years before divorcing, but ultimately remained on good terms.

Maggie was active in the Homeowner's Association in Georgetown South in the mid-1970s, handling the HOA newsletter. She was on the Board of the Manassas Swim Club, supported the non-profit organization SERVE, fundraising for the March of Dimes, had membership in the social/cultural sorority Beta Sigma Phi, and coached in the local youth soccer leagues. She worked at Baldwin Elementary School, the Francis House of Leather, the Manassas Holiday Inn, and for a government contractor at the GSA. Maggie supported her children through their academic & athletic careers, going to many league, middle & high school soccer games and early morning swim meets.

She loved to read, travel, people watch, drive her orange Honda Civic, collect stamps, play cards & backgammon, watch movies, and go to the Outer Banks – but she especially loved to talk to people and get to know them. Maggie was always interested and curious about any and all topics, and could make friends anywhere.

There will be a Memorial Service for her family and friends at Pierce's Funeral Home in Manassas at 4 pm on March 11, 2017. Please plan to remain at a reception afterwards. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations to the SERVE Shelter, 10056 Dean Drive, Manassas, VA 20144 (571)-748-2603, <http://www.nvfs.org>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 11. 4:00 PM (ET)

Pierce Funeral Home
9609 Center St.
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 257-6028
pfh@piercefh.com
<https://www.piercefh.com>

Tribute Wall

LH

“ Heartfelt sympathy and many prayers to the family for the loss of one so dear.

Leah Harper - March 28, 2017 at 02:30 PM

DS

“ Jennifer and Kevern, I am so sorry to hear about your mom. I remember the days in the old neighborhood. Every time I saw her she had a smile and usually something humorous to say. My condolences to you both and your families.

Doug Songer - March 10, 2017 at 02:49 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Margaret Pilar Spurlin.



March 08, 2017 at 09:37 AM

PD

“ Dear Family, I worked with Maggie for many years at GSA and she was a wonderful person. We shared many family stories and I know she loved you all very much. It was a privilege to be able to work with Maggie for so many years. My you find and receive comfort from the Lord. Sincerely, Penny Dredge

Penny Dredge - March 06, 2017 at 07:10 PM

SW

“ *Sherry Williams lit a candle in memory of Margaret Pilar Spurlin*



Sherry Williams - March 04, 2017 at 07:05 AM

CH

“ *Jennifer, Kevern & families. I worked with your mom at GSA and we continued our friendship long after. I am so very sorry for your loss, but whenever she spoke of her family, her face would light up.*

I will always think of her and smile.

Chuck Hernandez

Chuck Hernandez - March 03, 2017 at 09:26 PM

MG

“ *Jennifer, Kevern and family: Our deepest sympathy on the passing of your mom. She was always such a wonderful caring friend to so many of us in Manassas.*

Maury & Vera Gerson and family.

Maury Gerson - March 03, 2017 at 02:04 PM

JB

Mr. & Mrs. Gerson - thank you so much for your kind words. I know how much she enjoyed the friendship, kindness & sense of humor of both of you! Jennifer

Jennifer Bertulaitis - March 03, 2017 at 08:41 PM

NP

“ *Maggie and I were colleagues at GSA for many years. After she left GSA, we continued our friendship online and through the mail. She was a lovely person and I am very sorry for her loss. Sending deepest condolences to all her family and friends. Nancy Petersen*



Nancy Petersen - March 01, 2017 at 04:57 PM

JB

Thank you so much for your kind words.

Jennifer Bertulaitis - March 02, 2017 at 04:32 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Margaret Pilar Spurlin.*



March 01, 2017 at 01:46 PM