



Josephine (Burger) Van Wyk

June 30, 2025

VAN WYK (Burger) Josephine (Burger) Van Wyk, age 87, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, passed away on Monday, June 30, 2025. Born on January 19, 1938, in Jan Kempdorp, South Africa, she was the daughter of Rudolph U. and C. Elsabe Burger.

“Jo” and the Van Wyk family moved from South Africa to America in 1966 and found a home in Lancaster, where she was a homemaker for many years, raising her four children: Audrey, Eunice, Ingrid, and Kenneth. Later, she earned both a Bachelor's and a Master's degree in English—her second language—at Millersville University. Following the completion of her Master's, she became an adjunct professor of English at Millersville.

Jo loved her family, friends, gardening, reading, and myriad British detective drama shows. She showered her Yorkshire terriers with love over many years and was a fixture of School Lane Hills, walking her dogs all year round.

Jo was also a multiple-time cancer survivor. After successfully battling breast cancer in 2006, she sought to travel more and enjoy life. Her travels with family and friends included many trips to Hawaii, New Orleans (for multiple Saints NFL games), and the North Carolina Outer Banks (OBX).

She is survived by her husband, Peter, and her children, Ingrid (Larry) and

Kenneth (Caren).

In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in her name to your local animal shelter or the St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org).

Services will be private at the convenience of the family.

Tribute Wall



“ *Jo was a special person and dear friend. Our friendship began as colleagues at Millersville University and deepened as we became personal friends. I admired her quilting talents, general creativity, and intellect. She was generous with her time and talents. I was honored to be her friend. Linda Campbell*

Linda Campbell - August 28, 2025 at 09:28 PM