



Betty J. Funderburgh

February 12, 1949 - January 14, 2024

Betty J. Funderburgh, 74, of Indianapolis, passed away January 14, 2024. She was born February 12, 1949 in Martinsville, Indiana to the late William Henry and Margaret Elmira (Lyons) Funderburgh. Betty was a 1967 graduate of Lebanon High School. She received her bachelor's degree in mathematics and her master's degree in social work from Purdue University. Betty joined the Peace Corps after graduation and taught math in the Gambia. She returned years later to visit friends she had made. She began her 40 year career in social work in Indianapolis as a probation officer. During her career, she also volunteered for many years at a hospice and as a counselor at Camp Healing Tree, working with grieving children. She retired as a supervisor in social work in 2014. As a Boilermaker fan, she had many lunch bets with friends who were IU grads whenever Purdue played Indiana in football and basketball. A theater lover, she traveled to New York for Broadway weekends, seeing four or five productions during a long weekend, sometimes traveling solo, but often enjoying the venture with a friend or sister. Of the myriad shows she attended, "Come From Away", a musical about the kindness of strangers, was her favorite. She learned the love of gardening from her mother. The plot she created in her backyard yielded tomatoes, cucumbers, and blueberries, which she enjoyed sharing with her friends and family. Of the puzzles she enjoyed working, Sudoku was her favorite. A lover of animals, Betty adopted many dogs and cats over the years, some of them disabled.

Betty is survived by her sister, Carol A. Funderburgh; and beloved fur babies, Maggie and Baby. She was preceded in death by her two sisters, Connie Lee Funderburgh and Janet Sue Funderburgh. Final care and arrangements are entrusted to Shirley Brothers Washington Memorial Chapel. A Celebration of Life will be held later in the spring.

Her generosity and kindness will be missed. Memorial contributions may be made to the Humane Society of Indianapolis.