



Phyllis A. Butler

April 11, 1931 - January 7, 2026

Phyllis Butler was born April 11th, 1931 to Paul E. Brown and Irene (Gowan) Brown. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by half siblings Paul (Marilyn) Brown, Frank Brown and Burt Brown, as well as aunts Marge Brusco and Mary Goode and first cousin Barbara Goode Matters. She leaves first cousins John (Linda) Goode, Jean Goode and Cindy Brusco, as well as Maria Matters and Marilyn Brown to treasure her memory. She also leaves several second and third cousins, including the sons of her second cousin, Keith (Maria) Matters, whom she considered the son she never had and who preceded her in death.

Phyllis worked for many years as a court reporter in the Marion County Superior Court system for Judge Gerald Zore. She was a lifelong Democrat and marched in the Selma civil rights marches with the Indiana Young Democrats. She never missed an opportunity to discuss politics. She helped coordinate volunteers for the opening and closing ceremonies for the National Sports Festival and the Pan American Games here in Indianapolis. She collected American Girl dolls and made many of their outfits. She enjoyed cooking, sewing, knitting, crocheting, and needlepoint until she could no longer see well enough to do those things. She was an animal lover and spoiled many a dog or cat rotten. She loved country music and could tell you the life story and career of country stars from the 40's to current. She was married and divorced three times, but her last partner (whom she never married) was Valdis Valcins, who was probably the love of her life. She was an

independent woman before being an independent woman was fashionable. She was the master of the “Hoosier goodbye”, which is probably why she stayed so long on this earth. We would like to thank the staff at Accent Hospice and Hooverwood for making her as comfortable as possible in her last months. In keeping with her wishes no services are planned. But we are sure she would appreciate donations to any animal rescue in her name.

Cemetery Details

Memorial Park

9350 E Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46229

Tribute Wall

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“ Our deepest condolences from the family of JoAnne Relford Carson. Phyllis and JoAnne were friends since their grade school days, and stayed in close contact all of their lives. Their birthdays were one week apart, and they sometimes celebrated together. Phyllis was a generous friend and a strong source of support in JoAnne’s waning years. We will miss her presence in our lives.

Cindy Relford - January 23 at 04:47 AM