Streutker, Kathy Sue Zumstein 1952 - 2006

Cincinnati Enquirer - December 26, 2006

Kathy Sue Zumstein Streutker loved her family, loved to walk Volksmarcher was Deaconess nurse

VILLA HILLS - Volksmarch means "peoples' march." People are what made Kathy Sue Zumstein Streutker happy.

Whether she was caring for her husband and children, tending patients at Deaconess Hospital or walking beside fellow Volksmarchers from across the country, she treasured every friendship and acquaintance she made, said her daughter, Nichole Ann Morris.

Mrs. Streutker died from complications of lung cancer Friday at Hospice Care Center, St. Luke Hospital East, Fort Thomas, at the age of 54.

She was born in Covington in 1952. She graduated from Holmes High School in 1970 and attended Deaconess Nursing School, graduating as a registered nurse in 1975. She furthered her career in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in nursing from the College of Mount St. Joseph.

She married Donald Cecil Streutker in May 1971, settling in Villa Hills.

She enjoyed taking her children on reading adventures at the local library. She helped them solve each puzzle and make every craft found in the Highlights for Children magazine.

Holidays were made special for her family, too. They went to the Festival of Lights at the Cincinnati Zoo, riding the train to see all the lights and all the animal exhibits, her daughter fondly remembered.

"Mom would take us kids to various Cincinnati public parks and do Christmas crafts at their nature centers. We would watch Christmas shows, have hot chocolate and sing Christmas songs."

As a walking enthusiast, Mrs. Streutker walked and planned Volksmarch events in several states. She walked in parks throughout Northern Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati. She liked observing the seasons change and followed improvements made to local landscapes. Her favorite place to walk was Central Park in Boone County. Her longest walk was 26 miles, her daughter said.

"She encouraged so many people to stick to their dreams and listen to their hearts, they wouldn't be the people they are today if it wasn't for her," Morris said.

"She strongly believed that our personal significance is best measured by the love and compassion that we show to others every day," her sister, Karen Wilhelm, wrote in a eulogy.

Along with her husband, daughter and sister, survivors include her son, Sean Streutker; father, Henry Zumstein; brother, Robert Zumstein; and aunt, Geraldine Culbertson.

A memorial Mass will be 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at St. Joseph's Church, Crescent Springs.

Memorials: Kenton County Public Library Foundation, 502 Scott Blvd., Covington, KY 41011, Attn: Guy Young; or the American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK 73123-1718.