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Jeanne Labuda

1947 - 2022



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BORN 1947

DIED 2022

JEANNE LABUDA OBITUARY



Labuda, Jeanne

Labadia, Jeanne

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(Born 1947; Died July 25, 2022). State Representative for Southwest Denver and Sheridan 2007-2015. A Colorado leader energized by our incredible mountains; tirelessly dedicated to the environment and individual rights and opportunities, especially for active military, women, and girls. Her ever-present bright smile mirrored her view of life and appreciation for everyone around her, even as ALS slowly took over her body.

Her cherished memories include a life of public service and many adventures, starting in her early 20s with the Peace Corps in Liberia, trekking the southern Sahara Desert and climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro. She traveled extensively to National Parks and abroad and sailed the East Coast and Caribbean with her husband Michael Taber. She was an avid outdoorswoman, camping and climbing Colorado's "14ers" with her family and as a Girl Scout leader. She earned her JD from the University of Colorado at 42 and served in the Colorado Attorney General's Office, as Denver AAUW President, on the Denver Planning Board under Mayors Peña and Webb, as a Community Liaison under Webb, and four terms in the State Legislature as a Democrat. Jeanne was active in Cameron United Methodist Church on S. Pearl St., where she attended services for many years.

Jeanne felt blessed in having lived a very full, active life, and in seeing her core values and love of adventure in her children. She leaves behind a 50-year love affair with husband Michael, as well as endless love for daughters Danica (husband Ron) and Emily, brother Joseph (wife Norma), sister Therese (husband Joe Glenn), sister-in-law Janice, and many cousins, nieces, nephews, and dear friends. She was predeceased by parents Lillian and Steve (1979 and 2009), brothers Frank (1990) and Steve Jr. (2017), and son Lucas (1985).

A Denver Gathering in Remembrance of Jeanne is planned for late October.

Published by Denver Post from Aug. 19 to Aug. 21, 2022.



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I got to know Jeanne when we served in the Colorado Legislature together. She was warm, fun and smart! Condolences to Mike and family.

Su Ryden

August 21, 2022

As a friend of her daughters, I experienced Jeanne as a mom, her hospitality at study nights and sleep-overs, and her encouragement and high expectations for each of us. She attended my wedding, kept track of my highs and lows, and sent me a note after I experienced great personal loss, advising me how she carried on after her own loss. The last time I saw her in person, she was vibrant, animated, beaming with pride for her daughters, and side-by-side with her husband. At a special time for her family, she continued to encourage me, and those are the words I will remember her by, an Iron Lady of her own making.

Debbie Darrow

August 19, 2022

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