



June 30, 2012

Jane Richardson, 59, Ottumwa

submitted

OTTUMWA — Jane Ellen Richardson, 59, of Ottumwa, Iowa died on June 29, 2012, at the Hospice House in Ottumwa, Iowa.

She was born in Burlington, Iowa, to Edward D. Hass and Ruth Dee Lewis Hass, on August 22, 1952. Jane graduated from Burlington High School in

1970, attended Southeastern Community College in Burlington and Indian Hills Community College, and then received her bachelor's degree in 1988 from Buena Vista University. She was united in marriage with her high school sweetheart, Stephen A. Richardson, in Burlington on June 3, 1972. They shared a great life together for more than 40 years. Jane loved to travel, attend Hawkeye football weekends in the RV, both in Iowa City and on the road, assist Steve in his wine classes at Indian Hills, and she and Steve had the opportunity to visit all fifty states and parts of Europe, trips which included a number of wine-oriented adventures with close and dear friends.

Jane started her working career as a ward clerk at the VA Hospital in Iowa City, foregoing further education at that time as she supported Steve during his college and law school days, Jane then worked at Value Engineering in Alexandria, Virginia, and held various other secretarial positions, including working for Steve in Lake View, Iowa, before moving to Bloomfield, Iowa in 1984. She then began working for Indian Hills and the JTPA program in Ottumwa as a summer clerk, attended Indian Hills and Buena Vista, became a generalist with the JTPA program, and at the time of her retirement for health reasons in March of 2012, was the program supervisor for the Promise Jobs program administered locally by the Indian Hills Iowa Work Force Development office. Jane was dedicated to her job and clients, helped many families in their quest for self-sufficiency, and was well-respected throughout the State of Iowa for her dedication to and knowledge of this program. Jane served on various state committees throughout her career to further the success of these programs.

Jane was a loving wife, and a great friend to many. Her passion for life was unparalleled, and she will be greatly missed by everyone she touched with her love, understanding, compassion, and humor, and also for the way she approached the last days of her life with dignity and courage. Jane is survived by her husband, Steve, of Ottumwa; her sister Mary Hurley of Reinbeck, Iowa, several nieces and nephews; and her many, many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents.

At Jane's request, her body has been cremated and her cremated remains will be interred at a later date. There will be no funeral service, but there will be a Celebration of Life gathering at Hospice, 927 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, Ottumwa, on Sunday, July 1, 2012 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.,

with a short informal service at 4:30 p.m. All who knew and loved her are invited to attend to share their memories and stories.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the Hospice of Wapello and Davis Counties, 927 E. Pennsylvania Avenue, Ottumwa, IA 52501, or the Indian Hills Foundation, 525 Grandview Avenue, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501