

In Memory Of

Martha Kay (Albright) Hofer

May 26, 1942 - September 26, 2020



Martha Kay Hofer (78) of Fort Worth passed away on September 26, 2020 with her family foremost in her thoughts and prayers.

There will be a private memorial at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery where Kay will be with Ken and they are At Peace with God. In lieu of sending flowers or cards, memorials may be made to Meadowbrook-Poly UMC, 3900 Meadowbrook Dr, Fort Worth, Texas 76103. Peace be with you.

Kay was born to James William and Faye Blythe Albright on May 26, 1942. She was married to the late Ken Hofer for 36 years, where they joined families, enjoying farming in South Dakota and their later life in San Marcos and Fort Worth, Texas.

Kay graduated from Waco High School in 1960, enjoying class reunions in recent years. Dr., Kay Hofer received her Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (1978) and her M.A. (1973) and B.A. (1963) from the University of North Texas. From 1974- 1981, Kay served as the Director at the State Health Planning and Development Agency in South Dakota. In 1981, she left a promising career to pursue farming with her husband, where she enjoyed operating a very large New Holland combine, the annual harvest, the smell of fresh cut wheat, and the calm that came at the end of very long days. This was Kay's favorite time in her life, as she was very independent and wanted to live in open spaces.

She held assistant professorships at Oklahoma State University and Pan American University. In 1987, Kay joined Texas State University as an assistant professor. She was promoted to Associate Professor in 1991 and to full Professor in 1999. From 1987-1991, she directed Texas State's Masters of Public Administration Program. Dr. Hofer was awarded the prestigious Texas State Foundations of Excellence Teaching Award in both 2005 and 2006. She authored numerous book chapters and her articles have appeared in a variety of journals including Social Science Quarterly, The American Journal of Political Science, and Policy Studies. She was recognized as Professor Emeritus for her efforts and contributions to Texas State.

While in San Marcos, she enjoyed her church, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, volunteering for many charitable events including Meals On Wheels for 13 years and participating on church boards and committees. During her time with Texas State University, Kay mentored students and university organizations, including serving as

Academic Advisor for Delta Tau Delta fraternity from 2007 to 2013. Kay also serves as a member and Secretary of the First Board of Directors that started Habitat for Humanity in San Marcos. Until her passing, she was an active member and contributor for Delta Kappa Gamma, a professional society for women educators.

In recent years, she was very active in her local church, Meadowbrook United Methodist Church (UMC), where she took great joy in volunteering with Project Transformation, a summer reading program for grades 1-6, and was a Reading Buddy for Meadowbrook Elementary School 2017.

Kay will be remembered for her sharp wit, humor, thoughtfulness and kindness. She also enjoyed bridge with her Lakewood friends, although she was frustrated by losing often! Her knowledge and joy of politics and public policy were appreciated and lauded. She found much of life hilarious and remembered stories and personal information, caring and sharing kind words and thoughtful gestures for many. She enjoyed annual vacations with her daughter (favorites were a Fall cruise, Chincoteague Island and the Shenandoah Valley), as well as other vacations in Denver, Colorado, South Dakota and Canada. She loved the Fall and Christmas holidays with Deb, binge watching Hallmark movies (with the ever surprising happy ending) and holiday lights tours. She enjoyed impressionist art and was a Patron at Kimbell Art Museum in Fort Worth. Her true love in life was cooking and baking for others, where she was a gourmet chef and appreciated great food and restaurants, sharing meals and baked goods with her friends, family and church. She will be remembered for her love and care of others, and her joy in her church, family and friends. Special thanks to her pastor, Ginger Watson, the Christian Care team, and the Lakewood team and community for the love, care and support you provided to Kay and her family.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth John Hofer; and her son, Timothy John Hofer.

Martha is survived by her children, Debra Dickenson Duesterdick and husband, Kurt, Robert Wayne Dickenson and wife, Milidi, Teri Renae Lewis and husband, Warren, Tamera Ann Mitchell and husband, Ron, Thomas Joseph Hofer and wife, Caren, Kenneth James Hofer, and Tim's wife, Janet; grandchildren, Green Dickenson, Kayla Duesterdick Kidwell, Weston Hofer, Quade Hofer, Jayme Hofer, Jesse Hofer, Justin Hofer, Kyle Hofer and Kim Hofer; several great-grandchildren, cousins and many friends, including her best friends, Barbara Douglas and Sandi Overholser. Mom/Kay would laugh and be joyous that we are also including that she was preceded in death by her cherished golden retrievers, (Goldie, Dakota and Tiffany) and her beloved cat, (Bobbie).