



Joanne Fenstermaker Gerlach, age 78, passed away peacefully in her home after a brief illness on Friday, February 11, 2022. She was surrounded by her husband, her two sons, daughters-in-law and two grandchildren.

Joanne was born on November 24, 1943 in Allentown, PA. She graduated from William Allen High School in 1961 where she was class valedictorian. After graduating from Mount Holyoke College in 1965 with distinction and high honors in chemistry she attended the University of Wisconsin where she met her husband-to-be, Detlef Gerlach.

In 1967 they married and Joanne received her masters degree in Chemistry. In 1975. Ever ambitious, she received a second masters in Computer Science from Georgia State University, the same year her first son, Adam, was born. In 1979, one year after the birth of her second son, Christopher, the family moved to York, PA.

In York, Joanne was adjunct faculty at York College, teaching Computer Science for two years. She founded and operated a medical practice management software business, was president of the York Performing Arts for Children and also served as president of the Women's Giving Circle. In her retirement, she enjoyed traveling, reading, crossword puzzles and ancestry research. She loved being with family and friends. Her numerous photo books document her sons' weddings, her world-wide travels and the growth of grand children.