

Obituary Patricia Owens Chartock

Dr. Patricia Owens Chartock passed away on November 2, 2021 in Olympia, Washington. The oldest of four siblings, Pat was born April 9, 1943 in Berkeley, California, and grew up in Seattle. The salutatorian of her Franklin High School class, she went on to Mt. Holyoke to major in biology and become a member of the ski team. Both the College and her MHC group of friends remained dear to her throughout her life.

In 1966 Pat received an MA in Education from Northwestern and taught science in Chicago. At a party she met outgoing and gregarious Lewis Chartock. The Vietnam War was on and Lewis was enlisted as an Army officer. After a brief courtship, they decided to marry. Their son Don was born in 1971 in Pennsylvania, and her daughter Andrea in 1974 in South Carolina.

The family eventually settled in Croton-on-Hudson, NY. Throughout her life, however, Pat was content to pick up a variety of science and math-related jobs, while moving for Lewis's career. Her frequent advice was "there's no one career path, there are so many different interesting jobs out there that you never even imagined."

After receiving a PhD in Psychological Measurement/ Program Evaluation from Columbia University in 1979, Pat worked at the Brookdale Center for Healthy Aging where she carried out and published early research related to Alzheimer's disease, a cruel disease that would eventually take her own life.

As empty nesters in 1993, the couple moved to St. Louis. Pat found a job at Barnes Hospital as Director of Quality Assurance. When her office became redundant after a hospital merger, she took early retirement.

Finally, she had time to enjoy gardening, Pilates and dance classes. She took her dog Buster to the dog park, read novels, spent time with her friends, volunteered as a board member for the YWCA, and traveled. The couple enjoyed a home on the sunny Saddlebrook golf course in Tucson. In the last chapter of Pat's life her three grandchildren became beacons of light, bringing music, beauty, art, and grace.

Pat Chartock passed away with her children at her side telling her that they loved her and were so grateful to have her as a mom. She leaves behind her husband Lewis, who loves her dearly, siblings Nancy (MJ Williams), Martha Creech (William), and John (Judy); children Don (MaryKate Perry) and Andrea (Damir Ribic); and grandchildren Phoebe, Margot and Milo.

Send condolences and memories of Pat to andichisinau@gmail.com. Contributions in her memory go to MHC.

