



## Janet L. Waanders

December 29, 1942 - May 31, 2024

Janet L. Waanders, age 81, passed away on May 31, 2024, at the Quadrangle in Ardmore, PA. She handled a long illness with grace and strength and was surrounded by love until the end. Before moving to Pennsylvania, Janet was a long-time resident of Piscataway, NJ., where she raised two daughters with her husband, David. She was a dedicated member of First Reformed Church in New Brunswick. She sang in the church choir, served as an elder, co-led an ongoing concert series, and contributed home-made food to many potluck dinners and coffee hours. Her Christian faith was evident in the kind way that she interacted with everyone she met.

Janet grew up in Holland, Michigan. She moved East to attend Barnard College and later earned a master's degree in English Literature at Rutgers University. She had a long career as a test developer at Educational Testing Service in Princeton, NJ. She enjoyed the intellectual challenge of her work and the warm connections she formed with colleagues at ETS and around the country.

Janet will be remembered for her gentle, generous, loving nature, and her devotion as a wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt and friend to many. She loved making and listening to music and reading literature ranging from poetry to classic novels to mysteries. She reveled in nature, traveling, swimming, and boating. She enjoyed spending time with friends, including her yoga group

and book club. She loved adventure and was a wonderful guide in NYC for any visitors passing through NJ. She was known for her adventurous side in the kitchen as well!

Janet was predeceased by her parents and her dear husband of 50 years, David. She is survived by her daughter, Christine Waanders, and son-in-law, Ivan Haskell; her daughter, Emily Sena, and son-in-law, Adam Sena; her grandchildren, Evan Sena, Aliece Sena, Nicholas Haskell, and Julian Haskell; her sister, Elizabeth DuMez; her brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Gerald and Harriet Waanders; her nephews, Alex DuMez, Tim DuMez, Jason Waanders, and their families.

Memorial gifts may be made to the National Endowment for the Arts (<https://www.arts.gov/about/make-a-donation-online>) or the New Brunswick Theological Seminary (<https://nbts.edu/donate/>). The Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, June 22, at 11:00 a.m. at New Brunswick Theological Seminary, 35 Seminary Place, New Brunswick, NJ.

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ Janet was a lovely gentle lady. I enjoyed our walks when she first came to the Quadrangle and her beautiful apartment

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**Margot Soven** - June 27, 2024 at 10:17 PM

EG

“ It was a pleasure and a privilege to work for Janet as my supervisor for almost a dozen years at ETS. She truly lived her faith, always principled and kind. I will remember not only participating with her in engaging and meaningful work but the personal touches Janet brought to everyone she worked with. Once she made waffles for all her group members. She and David were frequent and generous hosts at their lovely home in Piscataway. Her love for her family was inspiring. Heartfelt condolences to Christine and Emily and all her family.  
Elissa Greenwald

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**Elissa Greenwald** - June 20, 2024 at 01:29 PM

LH

“ Janet was one of the first persons to welcome us when we joined the FRC congregation 30+ years ago (or 're-joined,' given that Jim had grown-up in FRC before we married and joined my then-home congregation). While Jim & I still fondly recall David's french-horn musical offerings, I recall how fortunate FRC was to have Janet willing to 'fill-in' for worship on the piano on Sundays when we were without a regular church musician. She was a gracious lady, and I know she absolutely loved her daughters and grandchildren - who will surely miss her presence in their lives.

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**Liz Hance** - June 14, 2024 at 08:27 AM

PS

“ I will always remember Janet. We had many long conversations about music, books, current events and our Church. Janet would play the piano for the hymns we sang at our Church Women United Group of New Brunswick. I am so thankful to have known Janet.  
Pat Shiffner

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**Pat Shiffner** - June 08, 2024 at 08:32 PM

JF

“ I spent many hours with Janet at First Reformed Church over the years. She was a very special person and fun to be with. She will always be in my memories and bring a smile.

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**Joan Fekete** - June 07, 2024 at 05:56 PM