



Margretta Lou Tranger Walton

June 12, 1945 - May 8, 2023

Margretta Lou Tranger Walton died peacefully at home on May 8, 2023. Born on June 12, 1945, Margie grew up in Haverford, PA, spending her summers in Metedeconk, NJ. She graduated from The Baldwin School in 1963, and went on to attend Columbia College in Columbia, SC. At both schools she was very involved in theater production, sound engineering, stage lighting and stage management. She also became an excellent writer, voracious reader, proficient in French, and decent gin rummy player. As her high school gym teacher once shared, she was “very good at organizing.”

After managing a pediatricians’ office for 30 years, Margie went on to do bookkeeping and financial work in people’s homes. She jokingly called herself a financial wife. She loved to find that missing penny or sort out how to calculate and record complicated stock splits across investment portfolios.

During her marriage to Thomas E. Walton, she developed her love of Maine. Spending a few weeks there each summer with the Walton family, and then almost every year for the rest of her life. She particularly loved Damariscotta Lake, sharing a cabin with dear friends and her daughter was always a highlight of the summer. She continued to be close to the Waltons, spending holidays and family celebrations with them throughout the years.

Margie was a nature lover, a “noticer” of things like a beautiful bird, a

wildflower, a cloud that looked like a giant or an interesting rock formation. She was interested in art and music. She loved her birthday (and any other reason to celebrate), reveled in spending time with her extended Tranger family, coveted a good glass of chardonnay or a dark and stormy, never passed up dinner out, always saved room for dessert and boy could she cut a rug. You never had to ask her twice if she wanted to dance.

Some of the greatest joys in her life came through her numerous friends, both near and far. Margie looked forward to Book Group regardless of whether she had liked the book or even read it. It was an opportunity to spend time with friends and have interesting conversation. Weekends were for coffee meetups at the local café. And, rarely a week went by that she did not see her group of friends affectionately dubbed The Hens. They discussed their gardens, shared updates on their children, and sorted through the troubles of the world big and small, always over a glass of wine, or two, or three.

Margie was a 50-year member of the Main Line Committee for the Philadelphia Orchestra. Over the years, she took on tasks and projects from chairing fundraising campaigns to being on the committee for the first Philadelphia Orchestra opening night gala. As a parent of a Baldwin student, she was a devoted volunteer on the Parents' Association, and then again on the Alumnae Board. Additionally, she was a near-life-long member of the Philadelphia Skating Club and Humane Society.

Margie is survived by her daughter, Margaretta England Walton (Christina); siblings W. David Tranger (Patricia), Randall Tranger (Kathryn), Linda Bottoms (Stephen); numerous nieces and nephews as well as great-nieces and -nephews; and her grand-dog, Winston and grand-cat, Kitty (sorry, Mom).

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Margie Walton's memory to The Philadelphia Orchestra www.philorch.com/donate or The Natural Lands Trust

www.natlands.org/support/commemorative-gifts/

Previous Events

The family will receive guests

MAY 15. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Ardmore Presbyterian Church
5 West Montgomery Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Funeral Service

MAY 15. 11:00 AM (ET)

Ardmore Presbyterian Church
5 West Montgomery Avenue
Ardmore, PA

Tribute Wall

BM

“ So many wonderful memories with Margie that it’s hard to pick which ones to write about. I certainly have to mention the two week trip to France we took with six women in total, Margareta included. Many laughs and adventures. Another funny memory is when Margie and I were returning from Maine and she joined me as my ‘date’ for a wedding my husband and I had been invited to. We didn’t know many people, but we danced and danced. We will miss you Margie at book club. Your octopus book recommendation is one of my favorites!
Barb Minsker

Barb Minsker - May 14, 2023 at 06:54 PM



“ Buffalo sandals, I am fairly certain she still wore those sandals when I met her in the late ‘70’s. Margie invited me for lunch one day when I started working in the Alumnae Office at Baldwin. I remember what we ate that day. I got to see Margie early on Monday and although she was not awake I talked to her about the things we had done together and what were dear memories. You may not believe it but I did mention the sandals and a sweater her mother had knit for her and the rice salad. I am happy I am one of the “dear friends” who shared that cabin on Damariscotta Lake in Maine with Margie and Margareta and my family. So many years and so many wonderful memories. I will remember you and miss you always Margie. Rest in Peace.

Carole Manley - May 13, 2023 at 05:42 PM

GC

“ 52 years ago Margie and I worked for Dr. Polk .I had just landed on these shores and Margie took me under her wings and she and Tom and especially the Tranger family made me welcome in their midst. 10 years of working and laughing a lot together ,ours became a great friendship. She even learned some German words much to my mothers surprise when they visited my parents . Why couldn't you have taught her some other words ,they wanted to know ? Well, Margie didn't want to learn those. How often have we laughed about : der Tisch , der Stuhl , die Schublade and a few others! She taught me quite a lot about how things are done “the American way “! Our friendship survived my backing into her beloved Alfa Romeo and going our separate ways after our “Polk” years. From Marylands Eastern Shore our getting together ,visits and luncheons did not stop ,they became less frequent but our phone calls got longer. We had so many of the ups and downs in our lives to share I will miss you and our talks very much. My dear friend ,for now, I bid you a heartfelt :Auf ein Wiedersehen !
Gabriele Connell

gabriele connell - May 12, 2023 at 12:47 AM

KS

Loved both of you and the gentle care our family received at Dr. Polk's office. We went on to have three more children who knew Margie, but not you. They missed out. Much love to the women who made going to the doctor's office so much fun.

Kathleen Seaton - May 13, 2023 at 04:50 PM

SM

“ Just this past weekend, I was at a beach retreat with a group of friends and I said to them it reminded me of my youth and how much fun it had been to go to the NJ shore. And how special it had been to be together with my friends courtesy of Margie and her parents. Wonderful memories. Margie had a great laugh along with a great disposition and way of being that made her easy to be with. She was one of my favorite people at Baldwin. I know she went on after that time to be admired and loved by many. My condolences to her family. Susan Park Mills

Susan Mills - May 11, 2023 at 11:46 PM

JP

“ Margie was one of the happiest people I have ever known. At Baldwin she was always involved in something interesting, and she always gave 100% of herself - to her school, to her family and to her friends. Fifty years after we graduated from Baldwin, I had the pleasure of catching up with Margie at the 125th Anniversary celebration of the school's founding in September of 2013. This picture of us shows the Margie I remember.



jody phillips - May 11, 2023 at 10:19 PM

JC

“ A memory of Margie and our trip with her no named turtle.
A trip to remember from Columbia College to DC. We packed all our stuff into her Alfa Romero...so full we couldn't put the top up. Margie was driving so it became my job to hold the dish with her turtle. All was well and it got to be lunch time so I was putting the turtle in its dish in the floorboard when Margie informed me that I had to take it into the restaurant. Wrong they wouldn't let us bring the turtle into the restaurant. So back to the car with our turtle friend. We ate and then back to search the car until we found the turtle gave it water and continued on our journey.
At one toll booth we slowed to pay and then Margie gunned the car and we skipped the toll. However, my coke splashed over the turtle. Not good it was getting sticky but on we went.
By this time we were driving in DC and as we passed the Washington Monument for the fourth or fifth time I knew we were in trouble. (You have to remember this was 1965 before gps or cell phones.)
Margie finally got us back on route to Rockville.
Arriving at the Dawson home we rushed in barely pausing to speak to Mama Jane up stairs to the tub full of water to rescue the turtle. The turtle was saved but Mama Jane wasn't too happy(it was her bath water).
Margie continued her drive home with that no named turtle for her summer vacation.

We shared many adventures and I was thankful that “Tranger” was a part of my life. ❤️

Joyce Compton - May 11, 2023 at 08:18 PM

JD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jane Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 05:49 PM

JD

Margie's graduation picture . Columbia College , class of 1967. Note the sandals.

Jane Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 05:51 PM

JD

*Margie's Graduation.
Columbia college , class of 1967. Note the sandals .*

Jane Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 06:04 PM

JD

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Jane Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 05:35 PM

JD

Margie, and Columbia College friends "Button" Jane Dawson, Margaretta (daughter) Joyce Compton and Josephine Brunoski , July 2022

Jane Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 05:38 PM

JD

“ Sixty years ago this Fall I met my match at Columbia College in Columbia , S.C. I was a sophomore (class of 66) and this dark long hair confident girl was impossible to miss in the incoming Freshmen Class . She was considered a Yankee as was I, being from Maryland , no less.

She was different , smart , attractive and cool. She wore water buffalo sandals when everyone else wore weejun loafers . She introduced herself as “Tranger “.

My major was Speech and Drama and Margie was in Elementary Education .

We connected and Joyce Compton and I convinced our new recruit to join us in the Lighting Booth for all our Theatre Productions .

“Tranger” became our “Sound Expert “. Joyce and I did the Lighting Design and Follow Spot and we became an inseparable team. By the end of the year “Tranger” and I were roommates.

There are so many cherished college memories . Her Alpha Romeo, her Debut , New York City Just to name a few.

Ironically, we went our own way after graduation and then over 10 years ago we hooked up and then Joyce came into the fold and we met in Wayne every October. During those years Joyce and I even crashed Margie’s 50 year college reunion.

Last July of 2022 Margaretta and Christina hosted and over night with Margie and Josephine Brunoski (another college friend) and it was like back in time . We were young, healthy and laughing like no tomorrow. Time had stopped .

Margie, you touched and made a difference on so many people .

Your friendships over the years were vast in scope and yet each person in your life (I am sure) felt as if they were your only unique special friend . You had such a big heart and you lived life head on with a positive realistic outlook. You were fair and not judgmental.

How proud and lucky I am to have had you as a true friend .

Wherever you are , “ Break a leg and Carry on “.

Jane Dawson - May 11, 2023 at 05:31 PM

JC

“ So many wonderful memories of Margie through Baldwin and during college vacations. I especially remember trips to the shore and watching old movies until REALLY late — especially Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers!

Condolences and love to Margaretta, David, Randy and Lindy.
Jane McIntyre Carlisle

Jane McIntyre Carlisle - May 11, 2023 at 04:33 PM

ME

“ Many memories from my Baldwin days with Margie. Classes together, running through the passage way which was a No No. Dances at local boys schools as well as at Baldwin. Kept in touch with her after graduation. We shared phone calls once I moved to Portland OR. We supported each other long distance when we both were diagnosed with cancer. Talking about experiences with our side effects both physical & mental. Margie had a good sense of humor. We laughed together about saving money as we no longer had to buy products for our hair as we had none. Whenever I came east we would get together for lunch. She was a good friend and I will always be thankful that she was part of my life. Mary Morris Evans

Mary Morris Evans - May 11, 2023 at 03:21 PM

DB

“ A loyal member of the Golden Class of '63, it seems fitting that Margie would survive until the end of the 60th reunion weekend. We would only see each other at Baldwin reunions, but it never seemed as though any time had passed. She was always full of fun and energy and had a wicked sense of humor. Farewell, my friend. Deb Benjamin

Deb Benjamin - May 11, 2023 at 03:03 PM