

# CROSSED THE BAR

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Susan Stempfel Kinnaird



Susan Stempfel Kinnaird, born August 14, 1932, passed away on April 27, 2023. She is survived by her children Jim, Christy, Robert, and Ed, and 9 grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband Charles and their youngest son Keith.

Sue was born in Indianapolis, where she met Charles Roemler Kinnaird in Kindergarten. She went on to matriculate at Ward Belmont, Pine Manor, and Vanderbilt University. After all of that, she ran into Charlie again. This time, they fell in love. They married on May 28, 1955, in Nashville, TN.

Sue and Charlie eventually moved to Grosse Pointe Farms, MI. While raising 5 children there, Sue also found time to be a community figure, entrepreneur, and devoted volunteer. Her career included a term as President of the Detroit Girl Scouts and a successful catering business, Main Course, which she ran with her friends Kitty Gushee and Susie Lambrecht. Her volunteer work was a blessing to organizations like Meals on Wheels and Call For Action. She was a member of the Junior League and the League of Women Voters, led the grassroots advocacy group Moms Against Potholes, and was awarded a Golden Heart of Detroit for her years of service.

In 1964, Sue and Charlie bought Cottage 211 at the Belvedere, beginning a long tradition of family summers up north and coming full circle for Charlie, who grew up coming to the Club. They adored their summers at the Belvedere and instilled that love in their children as well.

Sue was unswervingly kind, compassionate and loving. She was a second mother to many, a helper to all, a wonderful host, a woman of great intelligence, heart, and humor. She will be missed by many, most especially her children, who adored her despite her occasional habit of pouring milk onto the heads of her unsuspecting kids, who to this day have no idea what they did to deserve it.

A graveside ceremony will be held on August 14, 2023, at Charlevoix Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Charlevoix Community Foundation or Focus Hope Detroit are appreciated.