Viki Joy Zeman



Viki died at our home in Punta Gorda Florida. Born to the late Charles and Rae Opitz, Viki grew up in Westfield NJ. She Graduated University of Miami and enjoyed a diverse career.... She was a speech therapist and special-ed teacher before deciding on a full-time career in the corporate world.

Viki held several positions with AT&T eventually retiring as a manager in their Corporate Real Estate operation.

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Ok The Fun Part

Our meeting was *serendipitous*.

Grandma would say it's our *destiny*.

A breakfast line was building at the hotel restaurant. The hostess asked single party patrons to possibly share tables to speed the service.

It was My Luckiest Day -

I got paired and shared a table with an engaging bright woman with captivating eyes. Her name was Viki Joy. A Jersey Girl. That was almost 35 years ago.

We slowly began a long distance relationship.

Eventually I flew the Boston – Newark Shuttle so regularly the attendants thought I was a dead-heading airline employee.

SO... I relocated to New Jersey to be with my Sweetheart and Soulmate. We married in 1990.

We both traveled for business. On the rare occasion when our business travels meshed, we planned dates in fun cities.

Let me tell you of one I'll never forget; a trip to San Francisco.

Viki arranged an evening that started with a stretch limo tour of the city together,

. . . .

then across Golden Gate at sunset for a romantic bay-side dinner in Sausalito.

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Our limo driver then returned us to 'Cisco for Irish Coffees at the Buena Vista Cafe. It was a special fun date complete with Sunrise breakfast.

.Yes.....

. Viki was full of surprises. I rarely saw her sew a button. Then in retirement she created all sorts of textile art. She had eclectic tastes in music, food, travel and art.

We spent many fun weekends visiting Manhattan; taking in a jazz club, maybe a museum, (One of the poster pics shows Viki at the Hayden Planetarium.)

Some evenings we might try fine dining at a new midtown restaurant or opt for some great Chow Mein at a funky Chinatown *dive*. She loved it all.

Retired; and ready for a change, we moved to Florida in early 2000.

Few knew Viki suffered with a chronic pain condition. She seldom complained. For a time she was a moderator with an on-line pain support group, helping others cope with similar problems.

That's	the	way	she	was.

Viki had an intellectual curiosity. She took (on-line) college level Courses in History and Astronomy.

She loved to read.

... and she enjoyed simple pleasures like watching a sunset or just vegging together with Netflix and popcorn.

Viki chided that her gardening skill might kill Plastic plants, In reality she grew some of the coolest looking succulents, flowers, even orchids.





Our many travels together covered Hawaii to Europe; Canada to Panama.

Viki loved smaller ship cruising specially as her failing health made it increasingly difficult to get around.

We filled more than a couple photo albums and thumb-drives with happy memories along the way.

OH Speaking of photos...... another Surprise: Viki - was a child "model" appearing in print ads and





brochures for the ANSCO Film company.

To Family, Friends and Neighbors - Thank you for caring. Thank you for sharing .

Thanks to those who sent cards, emails, shared a meal, made a donation, or simply had a pleasant remembrance of Viki.

"Joy" was much more than Viki's middle name;

it's what she brought to the life of those around her.

Dear Viki:



Life's voyage you have ended now, Yet another is in store-In Joyful light, on heaven's seas, Sail on! ... for ever more.

Through life you held a steady course,
In sunshine, or on stormy crestHold steady now the helm that guides,
To your eternal peace and rest.

Sail On Viki!



































Afterglow

I'd like the memory of me
To be a happy one,
I'd like to leave an afterglow
Of smiles when life is done.
I'd like to leave an echo
Whispering softly down the ways,
Of happy times and laughing times
And bright and sunny days.
I'd like the tears of those who
grieve,
To dry before the sun
Of happy memories that I leave
When life is done.

Johnson-Taylor Funeral & Cremation