

Susan L. MacBride 3/23/41- April 21, 2022

Susan Lamar MacBride of Rye and Welch Island, Gilford, passed away on April 21st at the age of 81, after being hospitalized for pneumonia. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, sister-in-law, aunt, and dear friend to many people throughout her life.

Susan was born in Greenwich, CT to Frank and Iola Lalley and her big brother Richard. As a young girl, Susan loved horses and was a proud rider on the New Canaan Mounted Troop. The family later relocated to the San Francisco Bay Area, followed by a move to Cincinnati. The house there had a barn, which meant Susan could have a horse. Halfway through high school, she and Royal Gossip had to part ways as the Lalleys planned their return to New England. Susan graduated from the Walnut Hill Preparatory School for Women in Natick, MA with her friend Fran Bailey, who years later would become her sister-in-law.

In 1959, while attending the University of New Hampshire, she noticed Jim MacBride while singing folk songs on campus. Months later, their paths crossed again. On April 15, 1960, they shared their first kiss on the rocks at Rye Ledge looking out at the Atlantic Ocean. It was the start of their lives together and in 1964, Jim married his gorgeous bride in Boston. Susan and Jim were active in the civil rights movement. After Bloody Sunday, they marched with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Selma, AL to support Black voting rights. In 1965, Jim and Susan moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan and made life-long friends living in Colonial Square. Susan worked at the University of Michigan as an Executive Secretary to the Legislative Liaison in the Office of the Vice President and later for the VP of Student Services. In 1969 she and Jim welcomed their first daughter into the world. Sara became a big sister in 1973 when Melissa was born.

In the 80's and 90's, Susan worked as an administrative assistant for Community High School's principals and the guidance counselor. She guided students on their post-graduation plans and many kids considered Susan to be a mother figure and mentor. In 2001, Jim retired, and they moved to Rye, NH. As retirees, they enjoyed spending time at their cottage on Lake Winnepesaukee and traveled through Europe and Russia on 3 memorable river cruises. Susan loved tending to her gardens and taking art classes. In 2006, she became a grandmother. Sara gave birth to her son Julian. In his teen years, Julian formed a close bond with his Grammy through their frequent cross country phone calls filled with laughter and life updates.

Susan encouraged her daughters at a young age to pursue their dreams and was so proud of the women they had

become. Sara and Melissa always felt so lucky to have a wonderful mom, who was also their best friend and trusted advisor on matters of the heart, career, and parenting. Susan was Jim's beautiful, supportive, and caring wife of 58 years. Our loss is immeasurable. She is dearly missed and will be forever loved.

Susan is survived by her husband Jim, daughters Sara and Melissa, grandson Julian Pawassar, her brother Richard Lalley, sisters-in-law Fran Lalley and Marion Guthrie, many close relatives, and friends. Susan's ashes were buried next to her father in the Lalley family plot, along with the ashes of her beloved cats and dogs on April 25, 2022. Some of her ashes were scattered at Lake Winnepesaukee. It was also Susan's wish to have her ashes scattered in Ann Arbor, MI in the Huron River and at Rye Ledge, where she and Jim had their first date and lasting kiss.