

SUSAN NANCY VAUGHN
March 12, 1943—April 19, 2024

Susan Nancy Darnell was born March 12, 1943, in St Mary's Hospital, San Francisco, California. Her parents were William Everett Darnell and Mabel Alice (Garrett) Darnell.

The family moved to Marin County where she grew up and graduated from San Anselmo High School. She received her Associates Degree from Marin Junior College.

She met Everett William Vaughn, a United States Air Force Academy Cadet, July 9, 1960. After a 3 year courtship, they married June 16, 1963.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years; daughter, Heidi Marie Wyckoff; son, William Everett Vaughn; granddaughters Samantha Erickson and Melissa Rather; grandsons Kyle and Nash Vaughn; great-grandchildren Sven and Phoebe Erickson and Ronald Hudson Rather III. She is also survived by her sister-in-law, Barbara Stewart and nieces Mari, Teresa and Carol of Houston, TX. Suzie and her friend, Carol, had a special, sisterly like relationship over the past 78 years.

To know her was to love her. Her smile, the sparkle in her eyes, and her laughter allowed her to make instant friends. She leaves numerous friends across this great land and England. You enriched her life, and you were always in her heart.

Suzie and Ev enjoyed his Air Force career and the places they got to see. She built a warm, loving home wherever they went. Destinations included Big Spring, TX; San Antonio, TX; Mountain Home, ID; Brampton, UK; Norfolk, VA; Hampton, VA; Woodhurst, UK; and Colorado Springs, CO. They decided to stay in Colorado Springs following his retirement from the Air Force because it was home.

She was another Mother to a number of Air Force Academy Cadets providing comfort and a release from the stress they endure in their military life. Her boys included Chris, Scott, Bill and Kevin. She was a volunteer with the Blood Bank at Penrose Hospital. She was a Grandmother and Great-grandmother. She was a caregiver to her parents.

Parkinson's Disease attacked and she suffered for 17 years. Relief and release from her pain came in the early morning of April 19, 2024. She was happy and wanted to go. Her family was with her at home to the end. She is missed.

"Who has touched the sky....who has seen wind as it went running by....none but the few....the few who knew the night by its first name....the color of the day. Who has touched

the sky...who has seen the clouds as they went singing by....none but the few....the few who knew the sun by its first name....the color of the moon. There have been some who walked among us...some who warm us like the child's smile...they touched the sky....met it eye to eye just by loving one another for a little while. Who has touched the sky...who has seen the day as it went stumbling by....none but the few....the few who knew love by its first name....the color of the heart...Who has touched the sky?"

Rod McKuen's "The Sky"

She and Everett will have a joint service with burial at the Air Force Academy Cemetery at a later date.

Donations may be made to Pikes Peak Hospice or St Jude's Hospital in her memory.