



Helen C. Cordes

November 27, 1945 - September 24, 2020

It is with heartfelt love and affection we announce Helen C. Cordes, 74, peacefully passed at home on Thursday, September 24, 2020 in Sugar Land after fighting Alzheimer's Disease for many years. She was born November 27, 1945 in Houston to Thomas and Helen McHenry. She graduated from Bellaire High School and the University of Houston.

Helen worked in the travel industry for most of her career and owned International Tours of Sugar Land. After she sold her business, she continued in the travel industry and was a substitute teacher. Her passion was to serve others and make a difference in her community. This included serving as a FBISD Trustee, President of Fort Bend Regional Council on Substance Abuse and namesake of the Helen Cordes Award Leadership in Action, Board member Gulf Coast Area United Way, Exchange Club of Sugar Land, and other organizations. She chaired or co-chaired many events including the Challenger Center of Fort Bend Project and the Sylvan Rodriguez/Dr. Neil Frank "Return to the Future-A Salute to the U.S. Space Program." After her Alzheimer's diagnosis she volunteered time with The Alzheimer's Association and spoke at conferences. She concluded her remarks with "We need to accept the diagnosis but challenge the process of the disease. As part of the process we need to be an advocate, cry a little, laugh a lot, accept the support, and continue to love."

Family who cherish her memory include her husband of 32 years, Roy L. Cordes Jr., 2 daughters, Katherine Copeland Ottmers and husband Jeffrey, Allison Copeland Roberts and husband Jason, 2 brothers, Thomas McHenry and husband Reeves Gilmore, Reece McHenry, 4 grandchildren, Karsten and Aven Ottmers and Ila and Coen Roberts, her mother-in-law, Betty Cordes, along with a host of other loving family members and friends. Special thanks to her loving caregivers, Jolly Lim, Virginia Acuna, and Cyndi Camacho.

A private graveside services for family will be held at Greenlawn Memorial Park. A memorial service will be held Friday, October 2, at 2:00 p.m. at Sugar Land Methodist Church, 431 Eldridge Rd., Sugar Land. The service will follow all COVID protocols.

Previous Events

Burial

SEP **28**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Greenlawn Memorial Park
3900 B.F. Terry Blvd.
Rosenberg, TX 77471

Service

OCT **2**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Sugar Land Methodist Church
431 Eldridge Road
Sugar Land, TX

Tribute Wall

TC

“ We've thought of you each day for many years and will continue to do so.

Love, Darlene and Tim

Tim & Darlene Cumings - October 05, 2020 at 02:55 PM

ET

“ This Thursday, September 24, Margie and I, along with many others, lost a very dear and wonderful friend. Helen Cordes was a very special lady to say the least. She had all the qualities everyone wish we could claim, loving, caring, smart, fearless, challenging, competitive and fun loving in every aspect of her life. Helen had a great impact on her family, her friends and the community in which she served in many successful capacities. Thank you Helen for sharing a part of your professional and personal life with Margie and me. Rest in peace. We love you.

Earnest & Margie Taylor - September 25, 2020 at 03:38 PM

DH

Our love and deep thoughts to you, Roy. You, too have been a courageous person along with Helen, helping her to leave a legacy of love and commitment to her family and community. Love you both.

Diana and Rick Herring - September 26, 2020 at 09:32 AM

RM

*Roy,
Our love, thoughts and prayers are with you at this most difficult time.
May you find comfort in the sweet memories you will forever cherish.*

Ray & Nicole Mehrens - September 29, 2020 at 04:10 PM

SW

Love to you Roy and all family members. May her memory continue to bring light to all.

sharon wallingford - October 04, 2020 at 08:11 PM

MG

With deepest sympathy, Robert and I hold you and your family in our prayers. We pray your memories and love of Helen will sustain you through your sorrows.

Mary ann Grayless

MARY ANN GRAYLESS - October 09, 2020 at 02:52 PM