



## Trudy Rose Lynne Brassell

April 18, 1957 - November 28, 2018

Trudy Rose Lynne Brassell (April 18 1957 – November 28 2018) Trudy was the daughter of Rose Margaret and George Frederick Green, originally of London, England. Trudy was born in Orsett, England, the second of her parents' two children. Trudy spent her formative years growing up in Exmouth, Devon in the south-west of England and attended the University of Bristol in the U.K. where she read German. She was the first member of her family to attend college/University, and subsequently became a certified high school teacher, teaching French and German at British state schools. She also met her husband, Simon, at Bristol, marrying him in 1981.

Trudy and her family moved to the U.S. in 1987 when Simon was offered a faculty position in Earth Sciences at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. During their years there, Trudy worked privately for Walter Hewlett, son of Bill Hewlett, co-founder of Hewlett-Packard. In 1991 a further career move brought Trudy's family to Bloomington, IN where Simon became Professor of Geological Sciences at Indiana University.

Trudy's years in Bloomington were happy ones where she immersed herself in home and community life. Her main focus was always teaching, and for many years she volunteered for local programs such as Community Partners in Reading and Literacy Groups, which supported children during the early stages of reading. As her interest segued into elementary education, Trudy enrolled in the IU School of Education's Transition to Teaching Master's Program, through which she became a certified elementary school teacher in 2007.

Beyond her penchant for foreign languages and literacy, Trudy's interests were wide-ranging and her passions included reading, foreign films, theatre, music in many forms, history, travel, walking her dog Willie, and increasingly the natural world and environmental change. She especially loved animals, both domestic and wildlife, and despaired at the devastation of species caused by human development. At the same time, her natural optimism and faith in God and humanity led her to hope for a more protected environmental future.

Trudy's life took an unexpected turn in 2009 when she was diagnosed with late-stage ovarian cancer. The years that followed were challenging but she sought to live life fully,

enjoying travelling to places such as Australia, Hawaii, Mexico, the Bahamas, and many locations in Europe. In the belief that progress against her disease could be made, Trudy voluntarily participated in four clinical trials and also gained many friends in the support groups in which she was active.

For Trudy her greatest joys were always her family and friends, on both sides of the pond. She maintained friends from her earliest school days and made many others along life's journey. Her absolute devotion was always to her wonderful husband, Simon, still of Bloomington, IN, and her three children – Nicole Elizabeth Rose Brassell, of Louisville, KY; Thomas George William Brassell of Cincinnati, OH; and Catherine Charlotte Alice Brassell of Urbana-Champaign, IL. Two years ago, Trudy was blessed when her grandson Mason was born to Thomas and his wife Anne (née Bush). Mason brought immeasurable happiness to Trudy's life and in her final days, she also took great delight in watching her daughters try on wedding dresses following their recent engagements – Catherine to Brian Mills, and Nicole to Gary Aronov.

Like her beloved Beatles, her favorite pop group since childhood, Trudy never ceased to believe that "All You Need is Love."

Funeral services will be conducted at 2:30 p.m. on December 18, 2018 at Trinity Episcopal Church, 111 S. Grant St., Bloomington, IN 47408.

In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations in Trudy's memory be made to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance or The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust enhancing advocacy for her illness and reflecting her love of the natural world. Online condolences can be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com).

# Events

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**DEC**   **Service**                      02:30PM

**18**

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Trinity Episcopal Church

111 S Grant St, Bloomington, IN, US, 47408-4031

# Comments

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“ Trudy and I met as language students at Bristol University 40 years ago and have remained close friends despite the physical distance between us. We grew up in an era and education system where arts and sciences were seen as separate and opposite, but we both went on to marry scientists and through them developed a greater understanding of science and an appreciation of its fundamental role in all our lives.

Trudy was warm, compassionate and fun, devoted to Simon and their children, at the same time outward-looking with a keen interest in debating the big issues, including politics, on both sides of the pond. Her love of languages, literature, the arts and other cultures continued throughout her life. Over the years she developed a passion for the environment and protecting it for the benefit of all.

Trudy faced the challenges in her life with strength, determination and with a positive attitude. She was an inspiration to us all. I have many happy memories of the times we spent together over the years.

Trudy was much loved and I miss her greatly.

Lorna x

Lorna Edwards - December 18, 2018 at 04:42 AM

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“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Trudy Rose Lynne Brassell.



December 15, 2018 at 04:47 PM

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“ I'm so sorry, Trudy and I connected on so many levels, she always said I was the sister she always wanted, and she mine. Over the years we shared a love of reading, languages, travel cooking, the environment, our children and numerous other subjects. I will forever hold her close in my heart. My deepest condolences go out to Simon, Nicole, Thomas and Cat. Xxxx



**Gabrielle Malin** - December 14, 2018 at 02:14 PM

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“ Blue & White Sympathy Floor Basket was purchased for the family of Trudy Rose Lynne Brassell.



December 14, 2018 at 01:59 PM

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“ My deepest condolences to Simon and to Trudy and Simon's family. Trudy was a dear friend, whom I got to know during the past few years through our cancer support group. Though it was our disease that brought us together, we bonded over far more than that. Trudy's interests were broad, and we enjoyed our chats about family, travel, politics, the theatre, doctors, grandchildren, and dogs (among many other things); I always admired her positive outlook, her humanity, her intelligence, and her efforts to maintain a normal life for herself and her family despite her illness. I miss her. I hope that her family will find joy in the memory of this very special person.

**Lucy Cherbas** - December 09, 2018 at 09:29 AM

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“ Dear Simon, Tom, Nicole and Catherine

We are so sorry to learn of Trudy's death. Its been a long while since we've seen you all, but we remember all the fun we had as families - playing charades, escapades, and celebrations. We send you our love and hugs as you mourn your lovely Mum and beloved wife.

The Campbell Family - Jim, Carol, Celi and Graham

**Carol Campbell** - December 05, 2018 at 10:15 AM