

## Gwendolyn Sidles, 57

*Nov. 30, 1944 - April 10, 2002*

**SCOTTSDALE, AZ** - Gwendolyn Margaret Sidles was born Nov. 30, 1944, in Harlan daughter of Wanda Mildred Buman and Joseph Frederick Jurschak. Gwen had three sisters and three brothers. The Jurschak family owned and operated a dairy farm near Portsmouth. Gwen attended a one-room schoolhouse through the eighth grade and graduated from Harlan High School. For two years, she attended the College of St. Mary's in Omaha, NE. After college, she worked as a clerical assistant for an insurance company. She eventually acquired a job as an executive secretary for an appliance/auto parts company.

There she met and later married Fred Melton Sidles. Gwen and Fred had one son, Jeffrey Joseph. Throughout their marriage, they moved around a lot living in Nebraska, Colorado, Idaho and Florida, before settling in Scottsdale, AZ. In August 1969, she was stricken with Lupus, which eventually destroyed her kidneys. In December 1970, at age 25 she received her first kidney transplant, which was successful for 20 years. In March 1990, she conquered breast cancer. A year later, she received another healthy kidney from her sister, Karen. In 1993, she courageously fought breast cancer for the second time. She joined the Arizona Kidney Foundation (AKF) Board of Directors in 1983, started the Friends of AKF Golf Classic in 1981, which she chaired each year for 20 years. She was presented the Certificate of Appreciation Anna Rosenzweig Award for outstanding volunteer service in 1986, and served as the AFK State President (1987 - 1988). She was the first person to chair the AKF Deals on Wheels program and was honored with the National Kidney Volunteer Service Award (1990). She also volunteered each spring for the US West/Scottsdale Memorial Hospital Pro-Am Golf Classic and in 1995 was awarded her 10 year pin. She died April 10, 2002, at Scottsdale Memorial Hospital at age 57.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Marilyn who died in May 1980 and brother, Robert, who died at age six months. She is survived by her husband, Fred; son, Jeff (Kathy) and granddaughter, Piper Gwen Sidles; her sisters, Karen (Jack) Clark of St. Louis, MO; Marlene (Steve) Burnham of Evergreen, CO; two brothers, Joe (Heidi) Jurschak of Evergreen, CO; Ken Jurschak of Phoenix, AZ; nieces, nephews, aunts and other relatives.

Messenger Mortuary and Paradise Memorial Gardens in charge of arrangements.