

# Gretchen Carlquist

## Obituary



CARLQUIST, GRETCHEN WILLIAMSON, 67, a resident of Annapolis, MD for over 35 years, passed away on Friday, November 9, 2012 after battling metastatic breast cancer for over a year and a half. Gretchen was initially diagnosed with invasive breast cancer in 2002 and underwent surgery, radiation and chemotherapy to overcome the disease for nearly nine years.

Gretchen was born on July 22, 1945 in Lawton, OK while her father, Elmer Carlquist, was stationed at Fort Sill Army Base. Her childhood was spent in Illinois and New Jersey. In 1963, she graduated from Palatine High School in Illinois. Gretchen is the middle of three sisters with whom she attended Purdue University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in 1967. After college, Gretchen moved to Washington, D.C. She reconnected with high school friend, Charlie Hunter of Chatham, New Jersey, who became her husband for 28 years. They had three children; Krista, Chip and Torrey. Gretchen was a devoted wife and mother, and found joy in raising her children.

She was very active in The Junior League and Calvary United Methodist Church. After her divorce in 2000, Gretchen began working as an administrative assistant and advanced to become a Financial Analyst for a contractor at NSA.

Some of Gretchen's fondest memories were from her grandparents' farm in Montmorenci, Indiana. She was extremely proud of her father's Swedish heritage and her home. She was a woman of great class, grace and strength. She had a radiant smile, sparkling eyes and a warm heart that would light up any room.

She was preceded in death by her father, Elmer Carlquist; and mother, Marjorie Carlquist. She is survived by daughters, Krista Hunter of Wellington, FL and Torrey Hunter of Anchorage, AK; son, Chip Hunter of Park City, UT; and sisters, Victoria Carlquist of Bethel, CT and Marsha Strooband of Portland, OR.

A service will be held at Calvary United Methodist Church, 301 Rowe Boulevard, Annapolis on Friday, November 16 at 1pm followed by a reception. Her children ask for bright colors to be worn to celebrate their mother's vibrant spirit. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Gretchen's honor to CaringBridge (<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/gretchencarlquist/donate/withsource/2000>) or METAvivor ([http://www.metavivor.org/Awareness\\_InMemorm.html](http://www.metavivor.org/Awareness_InMemorm.html))

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