



# **Antoinette "Toni" Bizyak Breiter**

SEP 16, 1938 - JUL 30, 2021



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# **Antoinette "Toni" Bizyak Breiter**

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**A**ntoinette (Toni) Bizyak Breiter passed away in her sleep of natural causes in Salt Lake City, UT on July 30, 2021. She was 82 years old.

Toni was born on September 16, 1938 in Pittsburgh, PA to Rudolph and Helen (Ciesinski) Bizyak. She had a normal childhood in Pittsburgh until fate intervened on December 31, 1955, when she went on a blind date with Jerome (Jerry) Breiter. The two never looked back and were married on August 16, 1958. While living in Indiana, Delaware, and finally Fairfax, VA, Toni stayed home raising their three children, Kirsten, Karl, and Karin.

In 1972, Toni began attending George Washington University. In 1976, she finally achieved her dream of a college degree, earning a BA in Journalism with a minor in Latin American Studies. For many years she worked at the National Council of La Raza and the National Puerto Rican Coalition as a writer and editor; she was particularly proud of the work she did with these two organizations. She was also very proud of the times she had a Press Pass to White House news briefings. She eventually began her own company, Mariposa Media Services. Upon her retirement, she and Jerry moved to Park City, UT.

In addition to raising three children and having a successful career, Toni was passionate about many causes and hobbies. She loved everything about Central and South America, especially Mexico: the people, the culture, artwork, and history. She often joked that she was a reincarnated Aztec princess. Toni was also a strong advocate of women's rights and civil rights, and participated in marches for both in Washington, D.C.

Toni had a multitude of hobbies. She was a talented seamstress and made many of her own and her children's clothes. She was an accomplished, self-taught gourmet cook, and dinner parties at the Breiter household were always the talk of the neighborhood. Toni was also an amazing photographer who documented not just



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her family's life but also the many countries she and Jerry visited. She was an avid reader, a love she passed down to her three children. But perhaps her greatest passion was music. Toni loved all music and you could always hear her singing anything from choral music to rock and roll. One of her greatest joys was singing with the Fairfax Choral Society for nearly three decades. Even after moving to Utah, she would often return to Fairfax once or twice a year to participate in one of their concerts.

Toni and Jerry love to travel and went to many places around the world including Mexico, Colombia and the Galapagos Islands, Peru, China, and Russia. They even visited their ancestral homelands of Poland (Toni) and Lithuania (Jerry).

But above all, Toni loved her family. She was as proud of them and their accomplishments as they were of her and her accomplishments.

Toni was preceded in death and has been reunited with her husband Jerry, son Karl and daughter Karin. She is survived by her daughter Kirsten (Steven) Johnson, daughter-in-law Cathy Breiter, grandchildren Danielle and Megan Breiter, brother Rudolph (Hatsuko) Bizyak, and a multitude of family and friends.

If you would like to honor Toni's memory, please consider a donation to the Fairfax Choral Society. A memorial service to honor Toni, along with husband Jerry and son Karl, is being planned to be held in Fairfax, VA in the Autumn.



## Tribute Wall

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HB

**Heather Breiter** posted:

We will always remember Aunt Toni's worldliness and love of music and culture. Smart, funny and sophisticated....she deserves peace at last, and she will be missed! Much Love, Heather, and also on behalf of Dennis

August 27 at 5:14 PM

CB

**Cathy Breiter** posted:

I feel so lucky to have had Toni as my mother-in-law. From the very first, she embraced me as a full member of the family, not "just" an in-law. Her kindness, warmth and humor will live on in my heart. Rest in peace, sweet Toni.

August 26 at 7:38 AM

KJ

**Kirsten Johnson** posted:

I miss you so much, Mom, but it helps knowing that you are at peace in God's presence and that you, Daddy, Karl, and Karin are together. I know you are watching over me and helping me through the pain and grief I feel. And I know I will see you again. It was a honor being your daughter and your friend - I couldn't have asked for better. I love you, Mommy. Until we meet again ❤️

August 24 at 9:45 AM



## **Memories only last if you share them**

Join us in honoring Antoinette "Toni" by  
contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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