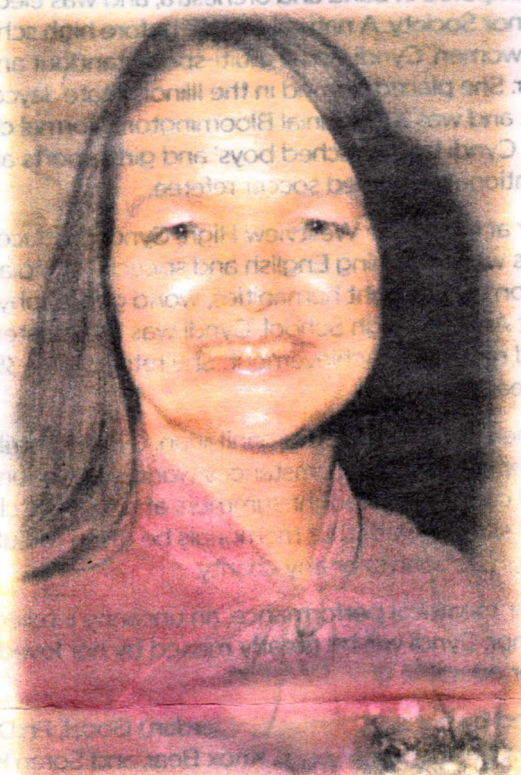
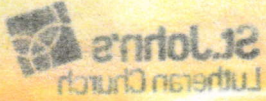


# Cynthia Jane Oberman



*For I am convinced that neither death nor life,  
neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future,  
nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else  
in all creation, will be able to separate us from  
the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*

Romans 8:38-39



ELMHURST — Cynthia Jane Oberman, 71, Elmhurst, passed away July 8, 2019. Born in Cedar Falls, Iowa, to James M. and Arlene "Jay" Jensen Oberman, Cyndi grew up in Iowa, then Illinois, graduating from NCHS and earning her B.S. from ISU with a degree in speech and dramatics education. She enjoyed the lead in numerous plays in high school and college, participated in band and orchestra, and was elected to the National Honor Society. A natural athlete before high school sports were available to women, Cyndi was a multi-sport standout and decorated tennis player. She placed second in the Illinois State Jaycees Tennis Tournament and was a perennial Bloomington/Normal champion during high school. Cyndi later coached boys' and girls' sports and worked as an internationally certified soccer referee.

As a teacher at Kankakee Westview High, Cyndi produced their plays and musicals while teaching English and speech. At Indian Trails Junior High (Addison), she taught humanities, world geography, English and math, and at Addison High School, Cyndi was the theater director and founded and ran Junior Achievement. She retired after 35 years of passionate teaching.

A totally generous and giving humanitarian, Cyndi contributed to children in impoverished circumstances worldwide, innumerable charities and causes, and taught summers at a migrant children's camp. To honor her spirit, we ask that memorials be given to Lutheran World Relief (through St. John's) or any charity.

With a gift for theatrical performance, an uncanny intellect, plus great sense of humor, Cyndi will be greatly missed by her loved ones, especially her adorable grandchildren.

She is survived by her son, James C. (Jordan) Gocel, Ph.D. neuroscience; grandchildren, Selah, Grace Wren, Knox Bear, and Soren Kai, all in Statesboro, Georgia; her mother, Arlene "Jay"; brothers, Jeff (Linda), Excelsior, Minnesota, and Joel, Naples, Florida.; nieces and nephews, Kaeli, Dane, Sean, and Lauren; uncle and aunt, Duane and Shirley Jensen; cousins, Susan and David; and former husband, Steve Gocel. She was predeceased by her loving father and grandparents.

A celebration of life service will be at 11 AM Thursday at St. John's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, with Pastor David Glesne presiding. Service will be preceded by visitation and followed by lunch to share memories.