

# Friend of strays & long-time neighbor passes away suddenly

By Barbara Quinn

Janet Linhart, a woman with short, often tousled, reddish hair, kind eyes and a heart as big as all St. Johns passed away suddenly on January 26, shocking and saddening her family, as well as Safe-way coworkers and neighbors.

Janet had deep roots in the St. Johns neighborhood having grown up here, graduated from Roosevelt in 1972 and lived here almost all her life. The Linhart family has lived in St. Johns since 1955 when Janet's father, Walt returned home with the family from a stint at the Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane. Walt Linhart, grew up in the house in back of the house her mother now owns. A



large garden occupied an oversize lot adjacent to the family home where Walt, an avid gardener liked to work. All three daughters Anita, Janet and Cheryl, were born on the

base but raised in St. Johns.

Janet had a big heart and cared for stray cats and dogs, particularly cats. She, fed and cared for eight strays at her sister's house in St. Johns after her sister passed away a few years ago. There were an additional four stray cats she helped look after at her mom's house along with regularly walking their dog Prince, a smiling, freckle-faced, cattle dog mix. Janet also owned a rescue Chihuahua. It's safe to say, it is a Linhart family tradition to care for strays.

Janet and family members offered the cats and dogs shelter and food, had them fixed, and spent time gaining their trust and socializing them. One formerly feral cat even lived in the basement of her

sister's house in St. Johns.

Margaret, 92, is having a particularly hard time with the loss of Janet having lost another daughter, Cheryl, in 2012. Janet's last words were of concern for her pets. Her memorial service was held on February 13 at Hustad Funeral Home in St. Johns.

The eight stray cats Janet cared for at her sister's place have gone to the Oregon Humane Society and will be put up for adoption to find new homes. It would be a nice gesture if the St. Johns stray cats could come back to the neighborhood so the family would have the comfort of knowing they are near-

by. The cats are various ages between 6 and 14 and they are used to a quiet household without dogs or children. If you or anyone you know might be interested in learning more, call or go to the Oregon Human Society at 503-285-7722 or 1067 NE Columbia Blvd.

Donations in Janet's name can also be sent to the cat adoption team in Sherwood, Oregon, or go to [catadoptionteam.org](http://catadoptionteam.org).

If you are caring for a feral cat and would like to have it fixed, you can call the Feral Cat Coalition of Oregon at [feralcats.com](http://feralcats.com) or call 503-797-2606.

## Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary

Beverly Ruth "Bev" Mayer and William "Glen" Read celebrated 50 years of marriage February 26, 2016. They met while living across the street from each other in North Portland and have lived in the area ever since. Glen worked for USPS for 37 years retiring in 1987. Bev worked for White Stag for almost nine years. Their children are Roxanne Read Lanphear and Brett Read. Grandchildren are Erika Read, Becci Read, Ralee Lanphear, Victoria Read and Jackson Read. Bev and Glen have enjoyed leisure time with family for the last 10 years at Rockaway Beach.



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