



**Evelyn May Kain loved and lived an ordinary life in extraordinary times from February 25, 1946 until December 30, 2022. Her loving family: husband Gene, sons, Jacob and Nicolas, spouses, Lora Kim and Madeleine Diemer, three high-spirited grandchildren, Echo, Skaya and Frances, plus siblings Walter Carroll and Linda Oliver. Born in New Jersey, Evelyn grew up there and in New England, before earning a BA in Art History at Columbia University and a PhD at the University of Vienna, Austria, where she lived for thirteen years. Ten years ago, she moved from Ripon, WI, to Madison, WI, to spend winters in the Coachella Valley, CA.**

**For thirty years, Evelyn had the privilege of teaching wild and wonderful Ripon College students in courses that ran from cave painting, to the craziest contemporary art to feminist art practice. The first year of eternity, she'll be back in the classroom, this time at the UW Medical College.**

**Evelyn wrote short stories and flash fiction about everyday life, plus nature poems, illustrated books for her grandchildren, cook books, *Water on Stone*, a novel, and *Unforgettable*, a recent play set in the global pandemic. Earlier, as an art historian, she wrote articles and lectures about medieval art, women artists and Vienna 1900, plus translated scholarly books from German to English.**

**Fiber arts were her great passion. Margere Bies, her centenarian, quilter mother, bequeathed her a never-ending stash of materials, one box of which is still labeled "Unfinished Things." Multi-media projects, some with political content, involved sewing, up and recycling, embroidery, knitting and colonial overshot weaving, utilizing vintage notions and found materials of all kinds. She was a regular member of the Memory Cloth Circle, a Madison group of astonishing artists who exhibit together and meet weekly for mutual inspiration.**

**Evelyn was a fervent member of the Raging Grannies of Madison who sing satirical songs demanding peace and social equality in a violent and unfair world. Major issues: reproductive choice, RGBTQ rights & climate justice. She sang and played baroque alto recorder in the Ripon College Collegium Musicum, plus washboard in the Ceresco String Band, and Alto II in the Choir for decades.**





**An active member of two Unitarian congregations - Prairie UU in Madison, WI, and the Church of the Desert in Rancho Mirage, CA - she embraced open-hearted and open-minded Universalist principles along with a deep sense of community.**

**In her condominium pool at Marbella, the past two summers, Evelyn set out to swim the Oceans Seven for something to brag about. She logged laps the equivalent distance of the English Channel (21 m), the Cook Strait, NZ, (16 m), the Strait of Gibraltar - Morocco (10 m), and was about to finish the Moloka'i Channel, Hawaii (27 m) when life took a different turn.**

**She imagines the first few minutes of eternity breast-stroking into the refraction patterns of a shimmering, turquoise swimming pool on a sunny day.**

**Spiritual practices included gardening, especially meditative weeding, plus hiking in Wisconsin on the Ice Age Trail and in the Coachella Valley of southern California. She set out alone as well as with buddies, logging several thousand miles after a knee replacement. Evelyn and Gene eBiked hundreds of miles along Wisconsin's Rail Trails. She loved to read and discuss books. At any given time, she might be active in three book clubs supplemented by audio books and podcasts.**

**Evelyn cherished long, long-term relationships, and never stopped making new friends. How to continue loving people in a violent and genocidal world?**

**"The basic source of all happiness is a sense of kindness and warm-heartedness towards others. We are all the same as human beings. We are born the same way, we die the same way, and we all want to lead happy lives. The way to change other's minds is with affection and not anger." Dalai Lama, 2022**

