



Annetta Wedemeyer Johns Kinnicutt

March 10, 1940 - June 2, 2016

Annetta Kinnicutt – teacher, writer, painter, ceramicist, gardener, activist and loving wife and mother - left friends and family and her many former students on June 2, 2016. Born in Honolulu, she was 76 when she passed at home surrounded by her family.

Annetta moved to and grew up in Los Angeles after the war, but along with her sister Judy, spent virtually every summer with family in her beloved Hawaii. After graduating from the University of Oregon, she returned to the islands to begin a teaching career that spanned 50 years and included several years in the Far East teaching in the U.S. military school system on bases in Japan.

In Hawaii, “Miss Johns” at various times taught elementary grades, gifted and talented programs and art at Laie Elementary School, Lanikai Elementary, Voyager Public Charter School and Hanahau’oli School in Makiki. Her unique ability to creatively motivate her students at every level to love learning and achieve their full potential was an inspiration to those she worked with and to many of her students as well.

Outside of the classroom, she was a loving mother to son Kainoa and daughter Leiana and a wonderfully beautiful wife to Phil, her husband of 47 years. At the same time she was active in community affairs, pursued her creative interests in poetry, painting and ceramics and found time to earn a Master’s Degree in Education from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She was an original and long standing member of the Kailua Neighborhood Board, an active participant in the effort to preserve Kawainui Marsh and the lead horticultural teacher for the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle’s “Learning to Grow” Project at the Women’s Community Correctional Center. She also created and maintained a unique artifact and ceramic filled “fairy garden” in the back yard of her Kalaheo Hillside home that still inspires awe and amazement among both children and adults.

Annetta loved Hawaii with a passion equaled by few and was proud of her Hawaiian heritage...something she passed on to Kainoa and Leiana and instilled in her husband. She was deeply committed to the education and well-being of all children and followed the

achievements of her students through college and later in life with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment.

She is survived by her many students, husband Phil, children Kainoa and Leiana, sister Judy Leach and daughter-in-law Julie. A celebration of her life will be held at the Kaneohe Yacht Club on Monday, August 8th at 4:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, donations in her honor may be made to the Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle "Learning to Grow" project, C/O Lani-Kailua Outdoor Circle, P.O. Box 261, Kailua, HI 96734

Comments



“ Mrs. Kinnicutt was my first and second grade teacher. She had so much patience with me. I was a disruptive and annoying child! But I turned out okay, I'm sure she had something to do with it. Of all the teachers I have had throughout my life, Mrs. Kinnicutt is a standout, and one of the best teachers I have had. Sorry this is late, but important.

Robert Inn - September 26, 2017 at 09:44 PM



“ Aloha Phil. My thoughts are with you. I will always remember the times spent with you and Annetta - especially at the little house on the Bay. Annetta was always very welcoming and I can still hear her infectious laugh and see her broad smile. Her gardening tips still foster my plants to this day.

Alex Wade - June 26, 2016 at 04:06 PM



“ May God at be your side to show you the way.

Frank Beverley-6-29-16

Frank Beverley - June 24, 2016 at 08:31 PM



“ My sincere condolences to your family. May you find comfort found in the words of Isaiah 25:8

D Marie - June 21, 2016 at 01:55 PM



“ Dear Phil, Kainoa, and Leiana

From New England, we are sending you condolence for the loss of Annetta, wife and mom.

Steve Jones

Steve Jones - June 18, 2016 at 04:42 PM



“ Annetta was talented, creative, smart, and kind. I am happy to have had the opportunity to have known her. She will be missed.

Elizabeth Kent

Elizabeth Kent - June 18, 2016 at 12:32 AM



“ Prayers go out to Phil & Family.

Charles Krieg - June 17, 2016 at 05:32 PM



“ Prayers to Phil and his family

Freddie Schmidt - June 16, 2016 at 06:09 PM



“ Aloha Phil, Carol Greene just shared with us the so sad news of Annetta's passing. Evie and I are so sorry and pray that the pain you are feeling will soon ease. We know she will always be in your heart with fond memories of the many years you were together.

With the circling Eva I see at my favorite surf spot I will think of Annetta watching over you and her many loved ones holding a place for us all as the circle of life continues.

God's blessing and peace be with my friend.
Aloha George and Evie

George and Evie Lingle - June 12, 2016 at 05:01 PM



“ To the Kinnicutt Ohana, over the many years our families have watched our kids grow to be the wonderful people they are today. Phil and Annetta have always been their to support them and through it we were able to get bond life long friendships. Annetta will be missed for many reasons; for her everlasting smile and her creative and caring ways. She is free again to do the many things that have escaped her of recent years. Our thoughts are with you. Carol, Ben and Shane Greene

Carol Greene - June 12, 2016 at 02:34 PM



“ Though I have been gone from Hawaii for several decades, I remember Anetta as warm and gracious, dedicated to family and teaching. I also recall her great tolerance of the ocean misadventures Phil and I repeatedly got into when I owned Le'a, sometimes just shaking her head. I had forgotten with time that Aneta was a University of Oregon alumni. So best to close with Go Ducks!

Fred Uggl - June 12, 2016 at 09:17 AM



“ You will be missed. The memories are forever. Your legacy continues on in the lives you touched and the beautiful creations you left behind

linda Kneeland - June 11, 2016 at 11:24 AM



“ Shortly after we arrived arrived in the Islands Annetta and Phil were the first to welcome us to their Hawaiian hale and into their lives. I loved her quick intelligence and smile, her caring, her ability to balance realism with acceptance and forgiveness. She once described the weeds in her garden as being " ... okay, they're green too!" It was a good philosophy she taught me I try hard to apply to people as well. A good attitude for all of us to follow. Thank you, Annetta, for the valuable life lessons received because of your presence in our lives. Aloha.

Geoff Bush - June 11, 2016 at 09:03 AM