



Patricia Echeverria Johnston

April 22, 1947 - May 7, 2021

Patricia Echeverria Johnston, 74, of Sarasota, Florida, passed away on May 7, 2021, at home surrounded by her family after a long battle with ovarian cancer. She was born to Mario Echeverria and Evelyn Clunes in Santiago, Chile and attended the Villa Maria Academy. After graduating in 1964, Pat moved to Florida to attend the University of South Florida in Tampa and received a bachelor's degree in social studies education in 1968. She continued her studies at the University of Texas at Austin, earning a master's degree in Latin American studies the following year.

A lifelong educator, Pat was inspired by her experience as a teenager teaching religion to children in disadvantaged communities in Santiago, Chile. She joined the faculty at Pine View School for the Gifted shortly after the school's inception and taught there for 46 years - in many cases teaching multiple generations of the same family. Pat chaired the social studies department for many years and was motivated by her belief that the study of history is essential to an informed and engaged citizenry. Her special passion for arts and culture led her to teach an art history course, and she introduced thousands of students to classical music through annual field trips to the Sarasota Opera.

Pat's hobbies and interests included art, music, theatre, and travelling the world. In retirement she enjoyed cultivating her garden and was nearing

completion of Master Gardener certification at the time of her passing.

She was preceded in death by her parents, and is survived by her husband of 48 years, Wayne Johnston; daughter Eve Johnston and son-in-law Grissim Walker of Sarasota; son William Johnston and daughter-in-law Keren Landman of Atlanta, GA; brother Ricardo Echeverria and spouse Patricia Fuentes of Osorno, Chile, nieces Colomba and Matilde; and a multitude of cousins around the globe.

A private memorial mass will be held at St. Thomas More Catholic Church in Sarasota.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Thomas More Catholic Church, the Salvation Army, and Franklin Pond Chamber Music.