



Ann Bernauer 1931 - 2018

Born August 11th, 1931 in Salinas, California to Hunter and Gwendolyn Allen Johnson, she graduated from Stanford University in 1953 with a degree in Art History. She met and married Phil Bernauer while working for Westinghouse in 1959. They had 2 children (Matt born in 1960, and Susan in 1962), and moved to San Rafael.

Other than her children, her life passion was art. While watching them grow, she volunteered to work with local school art programs and the Oakland Museum. She took a studio in the early 1980's, and started to exhibit her own art. During the next 35 years, her artwork was shown all over the Bay Area. She also championed other artists by mentoring the creative experience and volunteering her time to help them show their work.

Her travels around the U.S. and abroad (to Europe, Mexico, and Bali) have inspired many works of art. Strong family ties and good friends, surrounded by the beauty of Marin County, provided her a good life.

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"My oil pastel paintings reflect shapes and forms in nature. The soft-edged fluency invites the viewer to inject his or her own feelings (or experiences) into the scene. Visualization is a healing tool. My work allows the mind to escape from realities and discover new possibilities. These "referenced" landscapes capture the essence of a place or a moment in time....a paint box sky at sunset or mysteries of fog-engulfed vistas. I replay the memory of events and bring them to life again on paper. I have used oil pastel with solvent wash to create soft effects. The drawing and layering of this medium provides the versatility needed to capture the memory (or fantasy) of the adventure." - Ann Bernauer