

# Charlene Sue Krupp



## Charlene Sue Krupp-Catalina

**Birth:** 25 April 1945 *in* Port Huron, Michigan

**Death:** 15 December 2023 *in* Oak Park, Illinois

**Port Saint Lucie, Florida --** Charlene "Char" Catalina, 78, passed away peacefully from natural causes surrounded by loved ones on the evening of December 15th in Oak Park, Illinois. Compassionate and giving, she will be remembered by everyone who knew her as a strong and kind voice of caring and support. She was born on April 25, 1945, in Port Huron, Michigan; her selfless and hard-working nature was inherited from parents Roland and Dorothy Krupp.

Char spent over 25 years in the Port Huron Area School District dedicated to the education of the area's youth. She began her career in special education and finished first as principal of Garfield Elementary School and then Lakeport Elementary School. Always looking to improve the lives of others, she created the Pupil Enrichment Program out of her home in the early 1980s which blossomed into a district-wide after school program for gifted students.

A widow since 2014, Char and her husband of over 30 years, Timothy "Tim" Catalina, were avid long-distance runners. She was named the Female Runner of the Year by Michigan Runner Magazine in 1987 and was the only Michigan female to finish the Boston Marathon in 1989—a Female Masters 12th place finish. She was inducted into the Port Huron Sports Hall of Fame in 1989. Although she stopped running marathons as she aged, she remained dedicated to exercise and fitness. In fact, she almost never slowed down, keeping herself busy walking, golfing, cooking, practicing yoga, and taking care of others in her life. She cherished her many friendships in Port Huron, Michigan, along with those in her second home of Port St. Lucie, Florida.

Char is survived by her siblings: sisters Marilyn (Dave) Dunn and Janet (Michael) Kelley and brother Robert (Pamela) Krupp. In addition, she leaves behind a long list of children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who love her dearly and will always cherish memories of her warmth, generosity, and love. Children include her two sons, Peter

(Jeanine) George and Patrick (Ellen) George as well as Tim's children, Marie (Douglas) Hoeffler; Paula (Tony) Mehringer; Anthony Catalina; Ross Catalina; and Timothy (Co-Uyen) Catalina. Grandchildren include Robert George; Thomas George; Peter George; and Jacqueline George as well as Jessica (Troy) McIntyre; Calvin Hoeffler; Kelly Hoeffler; Theresa (Jacob) Ghinazzi; Anthony Mehringer; Angela (Jaxson) Meister; Gina Mehringer; Curtiss Catalina; Kai Catalina; Jordan (Steve) Ng; Jacob Catalina; Zephan Catalina; and Siena Catalina. Her great-grandchildren include Leonardo Ghinazz; Catalina Meister; Isaiah Ng; Ellery Ng; Wesley Ng; Eli Ng; and David Ng.

Celebrations of life will be held in Port St. Lucie, Florida, in March 2024 and in Port Huron, Michigan, in July 2024. In remembrance of Char's life, the family asks that any charitable donations be made either online to the General Fund of First Presbyterian Church Port Huron ([www.fpcporthuron.org](http://www.fpcporthuron.org)) noted for the Charlene Catalina Memorial or via check to Blue Water Clinic, 1501 Krafft Road, Fort Gratiot, MI 48059.

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