

Red Hat Lady

The story below is by Fran Heath, one of Margene's longtime friends

Margene and I were both involved with Red Hat groups, but there was a period when Margene's group had not been planning many events, so she asked me to call her if my group was doing anything fun. We'd planned to attend a concert on Marietta Square one summer evening, and I invited Margene to come. She accepted, we packed picnic-type foods, and we went to the Square. Then, we proceeded to watch the sky "open up" with a deluge of rain. Margene and I laughed, hysterically, as we rode around in the car, talking to people who were running back to their cars in the downpour (yes, the concert was canceled!!:-). We ended up having a wonderful time at the home of one of my Red Hat sisters.

I also have a recollection of the evening a neighborhood group went to the Fox Theater in Atlanta to see the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Rockettes. This adventure was Margene's idea, and she was very excited about it. Our seating area was "okay" (not spectacular). Margene was disappointed that we couldn't see the stage very well. Just as we were discussing this, the WORLD'S TALLEST MAN sat down directly in front of Margene. I started laughing, and then Margene started to laugh — until we both had tears in our eyes. Determined not to let the seating adversities spoil our evening, we "balled up" our coats, sat on them to made ourselves higher in our seats, and enjoyed the show.

There are probably a million comical and heart-warming stories that could be told about Margene. Her loss was a HUGE loss, not only for her family, but for the many, many of us who knew her. She was definitely "one of a kind," "a heart of gold," "enthusiasm personified" — a person who'd be there in a heart-beat if you called upon her, or if she thought that she was needed.