

Cathy Sue Weaver

May 16, 1949 – August 27, 2001



Cathy Sue Weaver was born May 16, 1949, in Missouri. Her artistic ability throughout childhood led her to graduate in 1971 with a degree in Interior Design from University of Missouri. She received her Master's degree in Business Administration from University of Kansas in 1980 and worked for twenty-two years in the banking industry.

In 1994, Sue left the corporate world and founded Embroidery Concepts, Inc., a custom embroidery digitizing company. She loved her work and her customers, and soon her talent for giving life to designs with thread was in great demand by high-profile accounts. A few of her recognized designs include embroidered state seals found on leather chairs in state capitol buildings, numerous Disney and Warner Brothers designs, and detailed wildlife designs less than one inch tall for a belt manufacturer. Sue possessed an amazing artistic talent for design, and this was her passion until her death.

Cathy Sue Weaver was raped and beaten to death in her suburban Orlando, Florida, home on August 27, 2001. With the intent of destroying any evidence linking him to the crime, her killer then set her home on fire.

Six months prior to her death, Sue had contracted with a major department store to have the air ducts in her home cleaned. Unbeknownst to her, both of the men sent on the service call had criminal records. One of the men was a twice-convicted sex offender on parole. Six months later he returned to rape and murder Sue.

In 2002, Carpe Diem Sales & Marketing in Winter Park, Florida, honored her life with the Sue Weaver Memorial Award. As part of the annual embroidery competition sponsored by Embroidery/Monogram Business Magazine, Carpe Diem annually recognizes an outstanding digitizer with an award.

Sue's murder is not an isolated case. Tragically, consumers continue to be sexually assaulted and murdered by people whose jobs allow them access to their victims. The Cathy Sue Weaver Cause, a nonprofit organization, has been founded in Sue's memory to promote personal safety legislation and awareness. The organization plans a national campaign to educate and alert employers and consumers to the necessity of criminal background checks.

Sue Weaver was an amazing woman with incredible talents that included weaving, drawing, painting and creating stained glass pieces. She also enjoyed orchids, golf, flying, reading and relaxing at the beach, and her love of nature allowed her to see the beauty in everything. Highly regarded by her peers and loved by her family and friends, she is missed deeply by those who knew her.