

# Linda Warner

August 28, 1940–May 5, 2021



Linda Warner, LCSW, a retired clinical social worker and champion of human rights and children with special needs, died on Wednesday May 5, 2021 at her home in Portland, ME. She was 80. She died peacefully in her sleep after suffering a stroke and after 30 excruciating years of battling chronic Lyme disease.

Linda was born in Delaware, Ohio to her mother, Miriam Saint, a colorful soprano opera singer, and her father, Rev. Dr. Wellman Joel Warner, Sr., an ordained Methodist minister, social psychologist, and educator. She was 9 years junior to her brother Joel, of whom she admired and loved dearly.

In 1946, the family moved to Mamaroneck, New York, as her father was offered to head the department of sociology and anthropology at New York University. She spent every summer on the Isle of Springs, an island off the coast of Maine; a magical place with no roads or cars, only walking paths where the only access is by boat. There she cultivated her natural talent for fostering life-long friendships, leading adventures, playing tennis, and becoming a voracious reader and writer.

In 1962, following in her brother's footsteps, she graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University and went on to complete her master's degree in social work at the University of Michigan in 1964.

With an open heart, a thirst to find a like-minded community of folks who care deeply about equity and social justice, she drove across country with all of her belongings packed in her bright yellow VW bug and landed in the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco, where she indeed found her community of people who came from all walks of life.