

10 years ago

Why do **anniversaries** matter?
Why do we dwell on **numbers**?

Why do we need to prolong the
memory of one very bad day?

Perhaps, numbers help us to
define our own recoveries.

Maybe, being treated like a
number isn't always a bad thing.

2000. The year that you died. It was supposed to be the birth of a new age rather than the end of a friendship. However, your passing created hope for others. **350.** This is the number of Yukoners cared for in the chemo room you conceived and inspired.

34. This is the number of Yukon women living with breast cancer who have been helped by your fund.

13. The growing clan of wonderful nieces and nephews. The eldest still remember you. One of the younger is named after you. **3;** the number of trees that you asked to be planted in your memory.

Your **2** loving parents that miss you dearly. **1** young, beautiful son, now a teenager; he has your fiery spirit and fine features.

0. It's not a zero. It's just the big, empty space in my heart.

karen j wiederkehr, 1963-2000