



Judith Ann Cross

February 26, 1949 - October 7, 2020

Judith Ann Cross, 71, of Denver, Colorado, passed suddenly but peacefully in her home on Oct 6, 2020 of natural causes.

Judi was born on February 26, 1949 in Kansas City, Missouri to Virginia June Hamilton Cross and Fredrick Grant Cross. In Massachusetts, three years later, Judi's sister Cheryl was born. The sisters had a close relationship that remained for Judi's whole life. Judi graduated from North Quincy High School in Quincy, Massachusetts as a member of the National Honor Society in 1967. She then received an Associate in Arts from Eastern Nazarene College in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1969. That year Judi married Thomas Vorhauer. They welcomed their first-born son, Todd in 1970 in Falls Church, Virginia. Then came daughter Tonja in 1972. Shortly after, the family moved to Quincy, Massachusetts to live in the old Cross family home. Their third and last child, Shana, was born in 1976. The family moved to Colorado in 1982 for their next adventure. Judi would often exclaim in those first months, "Another beautiful day in Colorado?!" She resumed her academic studies and received a degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Colorado in 1987. Judi and Tom divorced in 1988 and she didn't remarry. Judi was a nurse for various hospitals and home-healthcare organizations for a number of years after graduation and then cleaned houses until retirement.

Judi found strength and comfort in her faith and relationship with Christ. She saw God in all the animals and in the beauty of the world. Her faith was intertwined with her love of the arts and nature. She enjoyed painting and played piano and guitar. You could find her dancing in public or at home whenever she heard her favorite songs. She made friends wherever she went and brightened any moment with her wonderful sense of humor. Her big, beautiful heart made a meaningful impact on many lives. Her friends and family describe her as creative, artistic, intelligent, a great friend and conversationalist, loving, funny, caring, a nature lover, a free spirit, fun-loving, honest, a beautiful soul...

Judi was preceded in death by her parents and is survived by her three children Todd Vorhauer (spouse, Kristine Vorhauer), Tonja Vorhauer (spouse, Robert Sustrik), and

Shana Vorhauer (spouse, Shane Hotle); Grandchildren Brayton Vorhauer (spouse, Mackenzie Vorhauer), Keelan Vorhauer (spouse, Alexi Vorhauer), and Sophia Vorhauer-Rubalcave; her sister Cheryl Cross; niece Erica Allison (spouse, Travis Allison); grand-nephew and grand-nieces Wyatt, Evelyn, and Isla Allison; and nephew David Cross.

The family held a private memorial in the mountains she so loved. In lieu of flowers, please share your thoughts and memories of Judi.

“ ...Do not fear the cycle, it happens to the trees, the sea, and me.”

- from a poem Judi wrote.

Comments



“ I will miss Judi. I met her through Artie and Deidre (and Rick) and she was usually at their holiday gatherings in summer parties where I often saw her and she came to a few of mine. I loved talking with her because she had a unique and creative way of looking at life and was always very positive. She had a laugh that was contagious and seem to find the good in all things.



Deborah J - October 28, 2020 at 07:17 PM



“ Judy became a good family friend and helped my dad in his last 15 years on a regular basis. Her spontaneous laugh and positive energy will be remembered.

Troy Ellef Farstveet - October 28, 2020 at 08:52 AM



“ How very sorry i was to get the news that Judi has left us! We had such a close friendship during our college years and after--until her move to Colorado and mine to California. In those early days together, we would talk for hours about everything--and i mean EVERYTHING. Judi was such a loyal friend and always a safe ear. How i loved that laugh of hers. We both shared so many ups and downs in our lives, but we always knew WHO to turn to in the end. Because Judi put her trust in our Savior, i know we will meet again. Meanwhile, it has blessed me to know the wonderful children she can be so proud of as they honor her during this time. Todd, Tonja and Shana--how your Mom loved you. We will never forget your precious Mom, who is now resting in eternal peace in our Lord's tender loving care. God bless and keep you all.

Susan Randall - October 28, 2020 at 01:20 AM



“ I have so many great memories of times spent with your family, there are too many to even count! I loved listening to her play the piano, she taught me a song and it's the only one I know how to play :). She was so proud of you all and loved you so much! I will always remember her great laugh! Even up to a couple weeks before she passed, she would check up on me and tell me she loved me. I am so thankful she was a part of my life. I am so very for your loss, she will be greatly missed

Angie Mobley - October 27, 2020 at 11:40 PM



“ Amy Chick lit a candle in memory of Judith Ann Cross



Amy Chick - October 27, 2020 at 11:22 PM



“ I have quite a few memories of Judy. Of course when I was younger I lived in the same neighborhood and Tonja and were friends. I was always at their house and Judy was also so nice to me. I just loved how motherly she was to everyone. Todd, Tonja and Shana I am so sorry to hear this about your mom. Just know we will all see her again in heaven.

Lori Riggs-Hooten - October 27, 2020 at 09:28 PM



“ Grandma Judi,

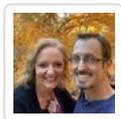
I love you so much even now. I am thankful for the times (and mostly laughs) we had together while you were with us. I always loved looking at the paintings that you had done capturing God's creation in such amazing likeness! I am so thankful for being able to call you Grandma and I am so thankful for the incredible blessing you gave me. For those that don't know my Grandma Judi gave me her engagement ring so that I could use it in hopes of one day proposing to my future bride. Now I am reminded everyday when I look at Mackenzie's ring knowing you made that possible for a broke college kid! I am so thankful for the memories made on our most recent trip and Mackenzie is so thankful that she got to meet you! If nothing else it feels amazing knowing that because you accepted Jesus Christ as your lord and savior that I will see you again one day in heaven! Your steadfast faith, sense of humor and kind heart will be missed. Thank you for all the prayers I never knew about for me and my life and bride. You will be missed.

Love,

Your First Grandson Brayton



Brayton Vorhauer - October 27, 2020 at 07:38 PM



“ Beautiful!!

Kristine - October 27, 2020 at 08:47 PM



“ Thanks, Judi.

Zack Kopp - October 27, 2020 at 07:00 PM



“ There is just no way for words to do someone justice, I’m sure we all know, but I will try to share a bit about my mom and my memories of her.

She was a survivor, she fiercely held on to the beauty of life in the face of her struggles and pain. She collected inspiration in quotes, poems, photos, songs, memories, and cherished moments with friends and family. I always knew she loved me and cared about how I was doing. She taught me honesty, and gave me and my siblings room to be ourselves.

In my teens we took a trip to many sights across the Rocky Mountains in Colorado, down to Mesa Verde. She let me use up rolls of film on scenery. But she loved pictures of the surrounding beauty too, and clouds! So it was not so much a sacrifice but encouraged. She always wanted to paint clouds and passed down that desire to me.

I remember her having my dad pull off the side of the road on one of our family trips as we passed a clear blue glacier lake – she proceeded to strip to her skivvies then ran into the water, so exhilarated by the beauty and the cold water! When our family got a hot tub and there was snow on the ground, she’d jump out of the tub to run around in the snow, then back in the tub again. I joined her at least a few times - it was so fun, especially to be laughing and playing with my mom. There are so many more memories of her eating up life that don’t necessarily involve extreme temperature changes - Haha! (I can hear her now laughing “haha, hehe, hoho!”)

Looking through the things she saved over the past few weeks I found birthday cards I wrote to her. In one from when I was around 15 and I told her she was the most beautiful person I knew. I’m thankful I shared that with her. In a more recent card from 2009 I wrote, “If you weren’t my mom, I’d still want to know you because you’re interesting, intelligent, insightful, eccentric, fun-loving, loving and – well, you’ve always been a cool mom!” It’s still true, Mom! And you are so much more than that. I’m grateful I chose you to be my mother (as I believe I did) and you chose me. Your mission here is over for now and you’re living your reward in a new life in spirit, in heaven. Now you can see how it all fits together. Soon you’ll be able to share what you’ve learned there with me. But for now I will just have faith that everything is working out as it should; you love me, Todd and Tonja, now from heaven; and that you’re cheering us on. I will be brave for you. I love you. Thank you, Mom, for your life and mine.



Shana Vorhauer - October 27, 2020 at 06:30 PM



“ Beautiful words Shana!

Kristine - October 27, 2020 at 08:48 PM

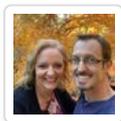


“ In loving memory of my mom.

As early as I can remember, my mom would make friends anywhere she went. She authentically loved and cared about people. She truly did not like injustice. She passed this trait on to me and now I passed it on to my daughter. I love to see my mom in my daughter. My mom raised us to experience life and let us make our own decisions. I am so thankful she allowed us this gift. My mom was a nurse and I would always ask her about my symptoms when I was sick. Even if I knew what I might have and what to do, I just wanted to hear it from my mom because it would make me feel like home, safe and loved and I wanted her to feel needed and loved. I will miss asking for her help, advice and just talking about anything. I will miss her love of nature, the beauty of the world, her authentic laugh, her kindness, her love of life, her love for her family and her beautiful soul. I miss you mom and I love you so much. This isn't goodbye. I will see you again someday and I will be excited to hug you and hear your beautiful, fun, authentic and contagious laugh. Love your daughter, Tonja.



Tonja Vorhauer - October 26, 2020 at 11:34 AM



“ Beautiful words Tonja.

Kristine - October 27, 2020 at 08:49 PM



“ In Loving Memory of My Mom:

The things I will miss about her the most will be her loving heart towards others, free spirit, sense of humor (including being able to laugh at herself). Her love for God and our spiritual conversations, always making time to talk with me about anything. Our talks about nature and her love of art and music I will always keep close in my heart. She loved my wife Kristine and our two boys Brayton and Keelan so much and told me often how proud she was of them. I will truly miss her here with us but look forward to when we are reunited again in Heaven with our Lord and Savior.

I love you mom,
Todd



Todd VORHAUER - October 21, 2020 at 07:23 PM



“ This is beautiful, Todd. She was so special and we were blessed to have her for our mom. Love you.

Shana - October 21, 2020 at 07:41 PM



“ I will always be grateful for Judi (and Tommy) for giving me and our family such wonderful neices and nephew...I could always count on her sense of humor...it was so refreshing to be able to laugh at ourselves...this was a gift she gave to everyone she met ..God bless you and keep you till we meet again

Sharon Martin - October 27, 2020 at 07:48 PM



“ Beautiful words Todd.

Kristine - October 27, 2020 at 08:50 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Cheryl Cross - October 19, 2020 at 10:37 PM



“ From Cheryl Cross:
In memory of my loving sister Judi:

Memories of childhood and up...remembering Mom would make me and Judi dresses just alike which I wore with great pride. We would go skiing often together and Judi would like to wiggle the chairlift to get me scared! :-) We shared a big bedroom together with a twin bed set which I still have. We studied together, Judi always got done first! She liked the radio on to sleep but I didn't! Judi came to my rescue when I burned my face badly, she saved me from having scars. I remember my trip with Mom and Dad from Erie, Pennsylvania to Fairfax, Virginia to see Judi's first born Todd. Oh how anxious we were! Remembering 60 Willet Street, Grammie's house, now Judi's and Tom's...Many trips to the lake/pond with family...My wedding and my sister as maid of honor, and of course Todd, Tonja, and Shana also in the wedding. Judi was always there for me. Judi made a trip for my first born Erica to help me with her care. Many conversations on the phone, many miles apart. Judi and kids always made special trips to see mom, showering with love and support. Judi made a trip for Erica's wedding, which was special. Judi and Shana made an unannounced visit for mom's 50 years of service award to the church. You should have seen mom's face, it was a great surprise (thanks Sis)! Judi, you will be missed greatly, loved you very much. -- Sis (Cheryl)

Cheryl Cross - October 19, 2020 at 10:33 PM



“
Kristine - October 27, 2020 at 08:50 PM



“ Thanks to F9 FA Dave B, I was introduced to Judi and her business services. A big plus was knowing she was darling Tonja's Mom!! My husband had passed away recently, I needed new inspiration in my home and my life. I respected Judi for her kindness, friendliness and excellent home cleaning services for me during my difficult time. She was lovely and always so very proud of her family!! I'm sure you all miss her very much.
xoxoxoxo

Patricia Sladey - October 27, 2020 at 11:14 PM