

Sharon Elizabeth Richterich

June 25, 2019

We lost our dear Sharon due to a sudden and unforeseen illness on Tuesday, June 4, 2019. We are grateful for the efforts of our local medical staff as well as those who provided care at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco. Thank you from all of Sharon's family and immediate friends for your professionalism and kindness.

Voicing the emotions of our entire family, losing Sharon is indescribable. The impact is felt not only by immediate family, but also by countless close friends. Sharon was a devoted wife and mother who was greatly loved by her husband Sparky and sons Morgan and Devin. She will also be painfully missed by her mother, Sheila Jones; her three sisters, Carolyn Collver, Stephanie Jones and Jennifer Holgrimson; and her brother, Marshall Jones. Sharon loved her nephews, nieces and great nephews and nieces, who referred to her as "Auntie Grammy." She was also loved by her brothers and sisters-in-law, as well as Sparky's mother, Marilyn Motschman, along with many other family members.

Sharon enjoyed traveling, making friends in places as distant as Africa, Europe and Israel. Those who developed a close friendship with Sharon truly felt they were additional brothers, sisters and children, and have provided much support.

Coming from a large family, Sharon was the child from an early age who took on the role of "second mom," keeping us rounded up and well cared for. Events for friends and family were indeed almost always organized and cared for by Sharon, at the old homestead in Hiouchi. The love shown in that house for decades is immeasurable. In fact, our sister Jennifer recently summed things up perfectly when she said, "Sharon was the center of our universe." We are so grateful to have had her as our loved one. We are determined to continue learning from her example; her life pattern demonstrating kindness and hospitality will always be a force that will keep us united.

Our family moved to Crescent City 48 years ago, and Sharon immediately fell in love with the beautiful Smith River and the community of Hiouchi. Her son Devin reminded us, "the old house on the hill that Pops built" remained a loving home ever since. All of us relied upon our frequent visits to see Sharon and Sparky for many reasons but unbelievably good food was always high on the list. Sharon was a gourmet chef, creating everything from heirloom seafood cioppino to decadent chocolate bourbon cake. The other wonderful things she made for us are just too numerous to mention. As her sons Morgan and Devin recently said, "everything was amazing!"

Many in our community appreciated Sharon's assistance professionally; she was an accomplished home designer and energy code compliance expert. Yet, for Sharon, the most important public service she offered was as a volunteer minister. She served as one of Jehovah's Witnesses for many years, helping numerous individuals gain knowledge about their creator that truly gave them the ability to improve the quality of their lives. Her son Devin recently drew our attention to a Bible verse his mother steered in his direction the day prior to her death. In a loving letter, she quoted the wisdom found at 2 Corinthians 12:10... In times of need and difficulty, we can be strong with the help of our Creator's strength. What lovely, timely encouragement Sharon left for us.

We miss Sharon with all our hearts, she is irreplaceable. Sharon's faith instilled in her the hope of living in perfect health on a paradise earth in the future. We hope very much to see her there.

A memorial service will be held on July 27th at the Cultural Center on Front Street in Crescent City at 2 p.m. Family and friends are invited to attend.

We wish to thank all in our community that have shown great concern and kindness.

Sincerely, Sharon's family.

— *Submitted by Family*

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