

Joan Warner

January 5, 2023



Our beloved mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin, sister and friend passed away on December 17, 2022, after a prolonged illness.

Joan was born in 1937 in Crescent City, California. She was an active tribal member of the Elk Valley Rancheria Tribe located in Crescent City. She attended school in Eureka, California and graduated from Eureka High School in 1956. She resided in Germany and the San Francisco Bay area in her early years.

Many will remember her as a staff member at the College of the Redwoods Childcare Center where she read stories during nap time. She was also a secretary at NCIDC in Eureka and the enrollment clerk at Elk Valley Rancheria.

Joan had many longtime special friends: Jerrie Kennedy Bartley, Ramona Fritz Billeci, Judy Crull Church, Corrina Blakely, and Raja Store.

She loved attending her high school reunions and the Eureka music festival.

Joan had a passion for going to thrift stores and rummage sales that led to her many collections. Friends and acquaintances have been amazed and entertained by all of her prized collections.

Joan loved her flowers and succulents and spent many hours tending to her garden.

She was a gifted artist. We all enjoyed her wonderful, whimsical paintings. She was so talented and could make anything look beautiful.

Joan was preceded in death by her grandparents Samuel and Amanda Lopez, mother Pansy Lopez Keeling Blazina, stepfather Charles Blazina, father Floyd Albert Keeling, sister Donna Keeling Crook, daughter Heidi Warner Valadao and son-in-law Virgil Valadao. Aunts and uncles Arthur Lopez, Ada Richards (Lopez), Dorothy Williams (Lopez), Edna Lopez, Herbert Lopez, Samuel Lopez Jr., Harold Lopez, Amanda Housley (Lopez), and Arnold Lopez. Niece Bonnie Seipp Japport, great niece Jennika Suaso and great nephew Samuel Portillo. Cousins Robert Lopez, Loeta Stinchcomb, Marion Lopez, Frank Richards, and Howan Lopez.

She leaves behind her son Richard Warner (Diane), her daughter Katherine Figueiredo, her sister Shirley Keeling Tomlinson, her grandsons Mathew Valadao (Kelsey) and Kristiano Figueiredo. Nieces and nephews Jennifer Cain, Jennie Seipp, July Seipp, Frank Portillo (Barbara) and Albert Portillo (Gina). Great nephews Thomas Portillo, Kenneth Portillo and Michael Thompson (Kim). Cousins Connie Baker, Dale Ann Sherman (Marlon), Lorena Lopez Snyder, Machele Lopez, Arlene Hulsey, Harold Lopez (Carolyn) and numerous other relatives.

She was loved and will be missed by all; the world has a lot less sparkle with her passing.

There will be a celebration of life on Friday, January 6, 2023, at 2:00 pm at the Sam Lopez Community Center at Elk Valley Rancheria 2332 Howland Hill Rd. Crescent City, California.