



Theresa Marie Clarkson

May 13, 1949 - August 12, 2019

Theresa Marie Clarkson was born on May 13, 1949, to Ed and Rita (Galvin) Clarkson; she was the middle child between sister Joan and brother Sam. She was raised in Oklahoma City and attended two Catholic schools--John Carroll Elementary and McGuinness High, graduating from the latter in 1967. She attended Oklahoma State University before transferring to the University of Kansas where she earned her BA degree in Education in 1971. Somewhat later, she developed her talent as an artist by taking courses at California College of the Arts in Oakland and in the spring of 1990, completed an MA degree in Clinical Social Work at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, NM. Her 28-year career as a LICSW included work in hospital and home health care settings as well as in private practice therapy.

Theresa had an adventurous spirit, which led her to many places. During her life, she lived in Boston, Berkeley, Santa Fe, Seattle and Minneapolis. She also traveled extensively including trips to Europe and the Middle East as well as to Mexico, the Caribbean, Central and South America. In fact, it was in Ayacucho, Peru, in the summer of 1995, that Theresa and her soon-to-be husband, Bill, met their beloved daughter Rosa and brought her to their new home in Seattle, where they lived for 13 years before relocating to Minneapolis in 2008. Near to Thanksgiving of this year, Rosa, now 26 years old, will give birth to Theresa's first grandchild, Xander Erickson.

Theresa died on August 12, 2019, after a long battle with Waldenstrom, a rare type of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Her unique spirit was a comfort to all who knew her. From her Oklahoma roots, she bravely learned acceptance and a love of nature. Her drawings and paintings, her poetry and short stories, her disciplined practice of yoga and meditation, her toiling in her garden, the pets she cared for, and the music she enjoyed showed her simple yet deep connection to all forms of life. This connection informed her perspective

on many different subjects --which she readily shared with her clients in psychotherapy, her friends, and especially her family; she was a favorite with all those with whom she interacted and she will be painfully missed as much as she was dearly loved.

Theresa is survived by her husband Bill Forisha and her daughter Rosa Forisha as well as by her sister Joan Clarkson and her husband Rick McCormick and by her brother Sam Clarkson and his wife Laura. She is also survived by nephew Matt Clarkson (Angie), nieces Emily (Wes) Curry, Sara Clarkson, Isa (Aaron) Boike, and Susana McCormick, great nephews Sam and Zac Clarkson and Killian Boike, and great nieces Abby and Lydia Curry, Amaya and Macie McCormick, and Emilia Boike.

A celebration of Theresa's life will be held on October 14th in Minneapolis. Donations in Theresa's memory to the orphanage in Ayacucho, Peru--from where in 1995 Rosa was adopted at age 2--will be greatly appreciated. Please make checks payable to Bill Forisha and note below that it is for "Peru". Send to Bill's address at 4715 Northrop Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55406.

(Eventually the total amount collected will be delivered to the orphanage in one payment.)

Comments



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Bill Forisha - October 19, 2019 at 04:42 PM



“ Dear Bill and Rosa, I send hugs and support as you grieve and celebrate Theresa's presence in your lives. You are in my heart, thoughts, and prayers. Much love to you, Ann Blake

Ann B. Blake - October 03, 2019 at 12:27 PM



“ Thank you Ann. We appreciate it. If you come to MN, I hope we might visit. Bill

Bill Forisha - October 19, 2019 at 04:32 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Mae Alobaj - September 10, 2019 at 01:38 PM



“ Thank you again Lorene for all of your help this past week.

Bill Forisha - October 19, 2019 at 04:30 PM



“ Carole & Frank Thompson lit a candle in memory of Theresa Marie Clarkson



Carole & Frank Thompson - September 09, 2019 at 10:13 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Marie McGinley - September 08, 2019 at 09:50 PM



“ Theresa was a great friend. We met freshman year in high school. We continued our friendship at KU and then to Boston, MA. Roomies for nearly 4 years. Eventually, Theresa moved to Berkeley, CA and I stayed in Boston. I have thought about her often and wished that I had tried to reconnect with her. My loss. For Rosa, Bill, Joan and Sam, I am so sad for your loss. Prayers to all of you.



Marie McGinley - September 08, 2019 at 09:33 PM



“ Thank you Marie. I recall hearing from Theresa of your longterm friendship. Bill

Bill Forisha - October 19, 2019 at 04:33 PM



“ Karen And John Gulliver lit a candle in memory of Theresa Marie Clarkson



Karen and John Gulliver - September 08, 2019 at 07:13 PM



“ Thank you both for your wonderful support--especially three weeks ago when you brought all that food over. Bill

Bill Forisha - October 19, 2019 at 04:37 PM



“ Pam Harris Nichols lit a candle in memory of Theresa Marie Clarkson



Pam Harris Nichols - September 08, 2019 at 04:58 PM