



Norma Jean Andres

September 27, 1949 - February 1, 2014

Norma Andres, beloved sister, aunt, dear friend, and co-worker, passed after a 2-year battle with ovarian cancer. She was a lover of life, sports, and travel and a vibrant presence--imparting wisdom, sharing laughter, and spreading love to all whose lives she touched. Norma was born to Pacita and Roman Andres. She was predeceased by her parents and by her beloved niece Megan. She was an athlete during her years at Chippewa Valley High School and an alumna of Wayne State University, having earned a Bachelor's degree in Special Education and a Master's in Rehabilitation Counseling. She was also a proud member of the Delta Zeta sorority, Epsilon Sigma chapter. During her WSU years she was involved with feminist and peace activities on campus. She became an Emergency Medical Technician, due to her longstanding love of science and medicine, and later got a position as a Medical

Attendant at Detroit General Hospital, having gotten a top score on the city Civil Service exam. Following a layoff, she broke gender barriers in the trades by obtaining a job as a water utility worker maintenance repair person for the city of Detroit. During that period she participated in a visit to the USSR to meet tradeswomen there. In 1985 she was hired by the State of Michigan and worked as a Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor on behalf of people with disabilities. She headed the Project Hope program in Detroit for HIV aids, and worked with the Kidney Foundation. Her extraordinary work on behalf of her clients was so appreciated that the Michigan Rehabilitation Association

named their annual Counselor of the Year Award for Norma Andres in perpetuity. She is survived by her brothers Glenn (Sue) and Ernest, sister-in-law Sue, niece Melissa and Melissa's husband Sam, and scores of close friends and their families. Contributions in her name may be made to: The Ruth Ellis Center: <http://www.ruthelliscenter.org/>

A memorial service will be held for Norma on Saturday, February 15, 2014 at 12 noon(promptly), with a reception and celebration of her life to follow. The location is the VFW Hall at 17075 Anita, Fraser, MI. 48026.

Tribute Wall

BH

“*I met Norma years & years ago when I started to ref her Over 30 Women league games on Monday nights at Total Soccer Fraser. She is the most kind & gracious person to ever walk through those doors. I am extremely sad that I, nor any of her teammates/opponents heard of her passing until today, because we all simply ADORED her. She was always so good to me, & she made everyone around her happier. She was a truly remarkable woman, & everyone associated with Total Soccer Fraser is deeply saddened to hear of this loss. I will miss you Norma! :(*”

Brandon Harkins - May 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AY

“*A truly incredible woman. I wish I had met you earlier in life and gotten to know you better. We all need to be a little more like Norma*”

April Yager - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CF

“*Norma was a special soul that graced our lives ... she touched all that new her. She just had that gift. A true loss - I will miss her deeply and am grateful to have known her.*”

Cristine Foster - February 15, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BS

“*I will miss my friend, Norma. She had big love in her heart, that she freely let glow all around her, in whatever adventure she was up to.*”

Beth Silvis - February 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

SM

“Happy Valentines Day Normie❤️. I know your one of those angels that is working hard to touch loved ones today like you always did in your life. You gave of yourself unconditionally to everyone you met & there was never a time when you couldn't stop to help someone in need. You had a wonderful passion for life that was seen through that sparkle in your eyes & that crazy lovable laugh. I'm so, so sorry that we lost this battle. The world has lost a wonderful person & we have all lost a beautiful friend. I will miss you forever.”

Sue Mogle - February 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

KG

“Norma has always been one of the kindest souls I have ever met in my life. Always questions about me and how I'm doing. So completely selfless. I'm so very sorry for all of our loss. It is tragic and sad. Someone so wonderful should have never known a day less than perfect. I love you Norma xoxo”

Kimmy Grodus - February 14, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LC

“I first met Norma in 1976. We both attended the Emergency Medical Technician class at Detroit Receiving Hospital. I still have our class picture and we are so young and full of hope for our future. Wanting to serve our community with peace and justice. We will all miss you Norma Jean.”

Lyn Chabot - February 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

NO

“Norma, you had the biggest heart I've know. You had a way of making people feel welcome. A true gift”

Nels Olson - February 13, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“Oh how I'll miss Norma's infectious laugh! What a loss for all of us”

Jen Neukam Bloomquist - February 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LL

“I had the pleasure of knowing Norma since the 70's, as she moved through her life filled with adventures, varied interests, different careers, travels, and a fierce love of life. She had such spirit and joy, goodness and grace. I'll miss you so much, Normie. My sympathies go to Norma's family and friends.”

Lesley L Lambright - February 12, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PO

“You were and are a shining light for everyone who knew you. Have fun hanging out with the Angels!”

Pat Osminski - February 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LK

“i was one of norma's delta zeta sorority sisters at wayne state. i was so sorry to hear that she had lost her long battle with cancer. she was such a sweetheart. i will keep you all in my thoughts & prayers.”

linda denike ketterer - February 11, 2014 at 12:00 AM