



Alga Lorena Lori Anderson

March 25, 1926 - February 26, 2021

Obituary

Alga Lorena (Lori) Anderson

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With heavy hearts we set free the spirit of Lori Anderson, just one month shy of her 95th birthday. She passed away peacefully in her sleep on February 26th, 2021 surrounded by family.

Lori was born Alga Lorena Carnesciali in 1926 to her parents Dante and Rosa Carnesciali. Dante, a carpenter and artisan furniture maker, and Rosa, a midwife, immigrated to America from Italy seeking a better life. They settled in Elmwood Park, Illinois, and raised Lori and her two brothers Tullio and Alfio in a house built by Dante. Italian culture and language shaped Lori in a significant way. She didn't speak English until she entered kindergarten, and then in her final days on earth, she went back to speaking Italian once again... full circle for "una bella vita!"

As Lori became an adult, her boldness and independence grew stronger. At 18, she audaciously announced to her family that she was leaving Illinois for sunny California. They eventually followed her to the Los Angeles area.

Lori started a family of her own when she married Alton "Eddie" Edmonds and had a son Ronald (Ronnie) and daughter Bonita (Bonnie). As a mother, Lori nurtured a sense of strength and morality into her children, and she was proud of the people they grew up to be.

Lori's intellect was one of her most notable qualities. Her curiosity and intelligence inspired her to earn advanced college degrees in Psychology and Education. Her passion for people and exploring life propelled her long career as a teacher (but not without trying her hand at many other professions along the way too!) Over the entirety of her life, Lori always found ways to volunteer to give back to the community, as well as sharpen her mind with classes, hobbies, and religion. She was a strong woman before the concept was popular and brought an unconventional creativity to everything she touched.

In retirement, Lori found love again when she married Bill Anderson and moved to Ashland, Oregon (not coincidentally, the home of the famous Shakespeare Festival). She became a highly active grandmother and great grandmother, making a meaningful impact especially on Elisa, Nicholas, Elaine, Jason, and Abby. The endless adventures in nature, art, science, history, and exploration created memories that will last a lifetime.

Lori taught us to camp on the patio to watch the stars and eat wild blackberries right off the bush. Forever growing, forever exploring.

A celebration of Lori's full life and indelible impact will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

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“ Oh- so sorry to hear of Lori’s passing. I can imagine you gathering around her and bringing her peace. I have so many fond memories with her on outings, gardening and in activities at Sunny View. I am better for having known Lori. “Ciao Bella” and “Saluti”

Heather E - March 08, 2021 at 12:51 PM