



Donna Jean McElroy

November 1, 1941 - November 28, 2013

Donna Jean McElroy, a Dayton resident passed away at her home in Dayton, Nevada after a battle with cancer on November 28, 2013. She was 72 years old.

Donna was born on November 1, 1941 in Warren Ohio the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Friga (Butler). She grew up and attended schools in Warren, Ohio graduating from Cortland High School, after which she attended a year of college. Donna served in the United States Air Force as a WAF Medic. She met and later married Gary E. McElroy on August 18, 1979 in South Lake Tahoe. The couple lived in Livermore, California from 1979 until 2006 when they moved to Dayton.

Donna's work history included working as a QA inspector for Hexcel Medical, Kirschner Medical, Ford Aerospace, Loral Space Systems, & the Space Sciences Lab at the University of Berkeley.

Donna was involved with the Ravenswood Progress League in Livermore, CA., and was a docent at the Ravenswood Historical Site. Donna was very interested in history. When she moved from Livermore to Dayton, NV, the first thing that she did was look for a place that she could use her interests in history. She found it at the Historical Society of Dayton Valley. She enjoyed dressing up in period costume but giving tours of the historical structures and talking about history was something that she enjoyed even more. Donna was also interested in the wild horses of Nevada and joined the Wild Horse Preservation League of Dayton Valley. Donna also worked as an Americorp Vista teaching English as a second language.

Donna is survived by her husband; Gary Everett McElroy, Daughter; Tracie Lynn Sweet (Toyer) (Ron) of Windsor, Cal, Son; William Timothy Toyer of Santa Rosa, Cal, Step-Daughter; Renee Marie Martz (McElroy) of Livermore, Cal, and Step-Son; Sean Everett McElroy (Carla) of Angels Camp, Cal, granddaughters; Britni Ann Burnham, Tabatha Jachlich (Sweet) and her husband Mathew, Brittany Danielle Mack, and Kyla Kathleen Sweet. Grandsons; Kevin Allen Sweet, Cory James Hardesty, James Everett McElroy, Jessie James McElroy and Tyler Lynn Hardesty, Great-granddaughters; Rocquele Virronchi, Eliana Gomez, Rochelle Kay Jacklich, and Sophia McElroy, Great-Grandsons; Julio Burnham, and Mathew David Jacklich Jr. Sisters; Patricia Hermison, Irene Deemer and Joann Gray (Robert), Brothers; Michael Friga (Gail) and George Friga. Donna was preceded in death by her parents, and one sister Rose Judson.

Tribute Wall



“ *Donna Jean McElroy*

November 04, 2023 at 08:25 PM



“ *Donna Jean McElroy*

November 01, 2023 at 12:58 PM



“ *Donna has been such a great influence on everyone that has been blessed to know her. She has touched my life in such a way that I didn't even know I needed, it is too hard to put into words. How grateful I am that I had a chance to have known her. I will be looking for her in the spring when she is among all the beautiful butterfly's.aGML*

Lauri Emerich - January 21, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *I met Donna about three years, ago. She was the first person to greet me from the Dayton Valley Historical Society, and oh what a warm welcome. I immediately signed up and our friendship began. What a beautiful lady she was with her lovely gowns and smile. As guests entered the museum they were overwhelmed with kindness and knowledge. She truly loved Dayton History. She introduced me to the ESL program, or working with people with language barriers. Her kindness and patience with her students was infectious, and she will forever be in their hearts. Thanks, Donna, for being such an inspiration to me, to us. I'm so excited to see you again in Heaven. Love, Margy*

Margy Bethers - January 18, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ Donna was such a special friend to me and to so many others. She was my best friend and my sanity saver. Wherever she went, she made a new friend. She touched so many hearts. She always wanted to talk to people and hear their story. Her love of learning and sharing her knowledge was evident in every conversation I had with her. She corralled both myself and my daughter into being docents at Ravenswood. I still can't believe she got me to wear a dress from that timeframe and march in the Livermore Rodeo Parade handing out flyers for the upcoming ice cream social. She always had a couple of very active volunteer positions going in the almost 20 years I was blessed to call her my friend. She truly wanted to help others and make a difference. She watched both my kids grow up and loved them and made them feel special. She loved to mentally challenge my husband with her sense of humor and verbally spar with him. It was fun to listen to them. I miss her and always will but I am glad she let me be with her on her courageous journey. She truly was a beautiful person, inside and out. Miss YOU, Donna Dear!

Judy Dodd - January 17, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TS

“ Donna McElroy was my mother. But she was also so much more. She was a special person, not afraid to live life to the fullest. She truly touched so many lives. She overcame so much and had such courage. I am so proud of the person she was and the life she lived. I will miss her terribly the rest of my life. I would say rest in peace mom but you are probably up there organizing a party for your new friends! I will always be proud to be your daughter! Until we meet again my hero, my Queen, my mom!

Tracie Sweet - January 03, 2014 at 12:00 AM

GL

“ Donna was such a great person, she went above and beyond to help everyone. We just loved having her around us and specially traveling she was such a great trooper...she will truly be missed, but in our hearts forever

Gerard & Diana ,Shannon Lamaestra - December 29, 2013 at 12:00 AM

WT

“ My mother was a heroic person. She came from a troubled family. She overcame a lot in her life. She was kind and generous. She loved fiercely and never over looked what was right and wrong. She always called me on bad or even questionable behavior. She would always say,"I love you but not what you are doing!" I love you Mom!!!!

william t Toyer - December 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CC

“ Donna Darlin' you made a mark in my heart that will never be filled. My friend you were surely an earthly angel and God put you on this earth for a reason; everyone who crossed your path got to experience a little piece of heaven and you showed that there is good in everyone. God does pick the prettiest flowers for his heavenly garden. Until we meet again my special friend xoxoxo

Connie Corley - December 17, 2013 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ My wife was a very special lady and this is constantly being confirmed every time I talk with or read someone's posting. I will miss her deeply. I love you DJ

Gary McElroy - December 16, 2013 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ Gary, may you find strength in the love of family and in the warm embrace of friends... May knowing you're in the hearts and thoughts of others help you and yours through this time of sorrow... Please remember that your loss is shared by many friends who care and that you're in our thoughts and hearts and in our every prayer... May you find the courage to face tomorrow in the love that surrounds you today and all of the days that follow... ? ? ?

Roy G. Dodd - December 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MP

“ Donna brought so much joy to so many. She was one of the kindest most caring individuals I have ever met. I will miss her a great deal until the day I will see her once again in the Heavens above.

Mike Peckham - December 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM