



## Judy Christensen

June 1, 1955 - August 24, 2017

Judy Christensen, age 62, passed away peacefully at her home, surrounded by her family on August 24, 2017. Judy was born in Wheatland, Iowa in 1955. She was raised on the family farm and attended Wheatland High School. Judy then went to Saint Luke's nursing school in Cedar Rapids, IA and graduated as a Registered Nurse. At the family farm in 1976, she married her high school sweetheart and love of her life, Rhys Christensen.

Judy and Rhys lived in Iowa City for a year before moving to Ames, IA. Judy worked as a surgical nurse at Mary Greeley Hospital in Ames. Judy and Rhys started their family in Ames with the birth of their first daughter, Cara in 1983. In 1984, Judy and Rhys moved to Ft. Collins to pursue a new life. Judy worked as a surgical nurse at Poudre Valley Hospital for 8 years. During this time she gave birth to Chase in 1985 and Casi in 1987.

Judy was a tireless community volunteer. While raising her family, Judy gave her time to Riffenburgh Elementary, Preston Jr. High and the local Red Cross Chapter. Most recently, she dedicated her service to Poudre Wilderness Volunteers. She served on the board, as the treasurer, as a fundraiser, and put in many trail hours. In the last two years, Judy poured her energy into 3Hopeful Hearts. Judy served on the board and as a support person to families who had lost a child.

Judy cast a large net of loving kindness around everyone she met. Her radiant smile and her bear hugs were famous. Judy's passion for the outdoors, her garden and volunteering was only surpassed by her love and commitment to her family and friends. Her zest for life and boundless energy were contagious. Caring for family and friends was the center of her universe. She always put others above herself.

Judy is survived by her husband of 41 years Rhys, her children, Cara along with her husband, Wyatt Southworth and grandson, Miles, Chase and his girlfriend, Diane Dougherty; and Casi and her husband, Nick Blakey. Judy is also survived by her mother, Imogene Paulsen and siblings, Cindy, Penny, Lori and Joel; and nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Don. Judy is also survived by the countless friends and families she touched during her life.

A Celebration of Life will be held at 2 pm on Wednesday September 6, 2017 at Windsong Estate, 2901 Saddler Blvd, Fort Collins, CO (the corner of Hwy 14 and Hwy 257). The celebration is casual, please come as you are. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the 3Hopeful Hearts Building Fund. (<http://coloradogives.org/3hopefulheartshome>)

Friends may send condolences to the family at [bohlenderfuneralchapel.com](http://bohlenderfuneralchapel.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

SEP 6. 2:00 PM (MT)

Windsong Estate  
2901 Saddler Blvd  
Fort collins, CO

# Tribute Wall

MW

“ Rhys and family, we were so sorry to hear of Judy's passing. Know we hold you and yours up in our prayers.

*Ron and Marcie Woolworth*

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**Marcie Woolworth** - September 05, 2017 at 03:17 PM

RY

“ Rhys children and other members friends and family members of Judy Christiansen please except my deepest condolences for the passing of Judy! May Judy RIP and may all of her memories and kindnesses be remembered by all. 🌸🙏❤️🌹

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**Ron Young** - September 05, 2017 at 01:49 PM

WF

“ Rhys and Family, I am so sorry to hear about Judy's death. I extend prayers and my sympathy to you and your family. May God comfort you. Wes Fox

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**Wes Fox** - September 05, 2017 at 10:32 AM

AS

“ Don - I am so saddened to hear of Judy's death. I remember her and Rhys well from many years ago. Our deepest sympathies. Ardy and Brad Schnittjer

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**Ardy Schnittjer** - September 05, 2017 at 10:16 AM

AM

“ Rhys and Paulsen family, I was so sorry to hear of Judy's passing. It is always hard to lose a loved one, but when it is so unexpected, that makes it that much harder to understand and handle!!! Hugs and prayers coming your way!!!!

*Ann Mulvihill - 1 second ago*

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**Ann Patterson Mulvihill** - September 04, 2017 at 11:01 PM

RS

*I used live in Roanoke and I had a friend who owned and operated a restaurant in the Roanoke Salem Plaza. Her name is Judy Christianson. Is this person the same person I knew?*

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**Robert Stamey** - July 15, 2020 at 05:33 PM

GD

“ Prayers and sympathies to the family, what a wonderful classmate will be sadly missed.

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**Gregory Davis** - September 03, 2017 at 10:56 PM

JW

“ I am so saddened to hear of Judy's passing. I was a counselor at Preston Junior High and was lucky enough to know her/your children. Judy had so much positive energy. She lit up a room, was a great listener, had boundless energy. I can not be with you on Wed. And I will be in spirit. You have chosen a lovely place to celebrate her life. My thoughts are with you and your wonderful children. Warmly, Julie Wertz

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**Julie Wertz** - September 03, 2017 at 10:05 AM

TR

“ *Rhys and family,*

*We are so sad that Judy passed so quickly. Wish we could have gotten one more hug and smile from her.*

*Judy was the best neighbor! When I married Dave and moved across the street 22 years ago, Judy literally welcomed me with open arms. She came over and gave me a big hug, talked and talked and made me feel so welcome. I will miss our talks when we'd meet at the mailbox, hearing all about her children and how proud she is of them. We will miss seeing her outside working long hours on their beautiful yard. Whenever we have rhubarb we will think of Judy since she gave us starts of hers. Ours has never grow to the giant proportions that hers did, but we get enough to have a few treats. It's hard to believe that we won't see her when we look out our window.*

*Last December, our beloved 16 year old dog was hit by a car in our driveway. Judy witnessed it. Most people would walk away hoping the dog was ok. Not Judy. She checked on Synden and then knocked on our door to tell us she was hurt. While Dave checked on Synden, Judy hugged and hugged me and comforted me while I grieved. What an amazing friend and neighbor! She knew how to empathize and care for others in her words and actions.*

*We will miss her and pray for comfort for all of you.*

*Love, Tina & Dave*

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**Tina Robertson** - September 01, 2017 at 10:54 PM

DM

“ Rhys,

*We were so sorry to hear about Judy and extend our deepest and most sincere sympathy to you and your family.*

*Dennis and Nancy Marion*

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**Dennis Marion** - September 01, 2017 at 06:18 PM

JC

“ Rhys, my heart is saddened by this news. Although I didn't know Judy, I can just tell she is such a beautiful soul. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.

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**Julia Crawmer** - September 01, 2017 at 06:15 PM

SH

“ We were so saddened to read of Judy's passing. I remember coming to your home to take family photos several if not many years ago. Judy was a gracious woman who made everyone feel comfortable. Sharon and Jim Hartman

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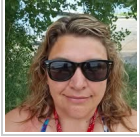
**Sharon Hartman** - September 01, 2017 at 04:15 PM

JO

“ I know words can not come close to expressing the sadness I feel. I don't know how many times she stopped with her smile to see LD and I and what a rock she was for me when LD was sick! I'm so sorry for you all. Another Angel has been called home. I know there are many who welcomed her when she arrived because she touched every soul she ever met.

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**Joni** - September 01, 2017 at 12:03 PM



“ *Cassie Cramer lit a candle in memory of Judy Christensen*



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**Cassie Cramer** - August 31, 2017 at 12:36 PM



*Always remembered her coming to Riffenburgh and helping out, such a nice person. Sorry Cara and your family for your loss.*

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**Cassie Cramer** - August 31, 2017 at 12:41 PM

AM

*Rhys and Paulsen family, I was so sorry to hear of Judy's passing. It is always hard to lose a loved one, but when it is so unexpected, that makes it that much harder to understand and handle!!! Hugs and prayers coming your way!!!!*

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**Ann Patterson Mulvihill** - September 04, 2017 at 10:59 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Judy Christensen.*



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August 31, 2017 at 12:11 PM

CD

“ *City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Dept. purchased the Guiding Light Bouquet for the family of Judy Christensen.*



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**City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Dept.** - August 31, 2017 at 11:27 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Judy Christensen.*



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August 30, 2017 at 07:49 PM

EW

“ *The Preston Middle School community remembers Judy as a constant, positive presence in our school. The many hours that she spent here made Preston a better place. Cara, Chase, Casi and Rhys: please accept our condolences and thank you so much for sharing her with us.*

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**Eric Walz** - August 30, 2017 at 03:08 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Judy Christensen.*



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August 30, 2017 at 01:29 PM

WC

“ *Judy was a bright light on the planet. She will be greatly missed. Our thoughts and prayers to her family. We were blessed to know her.*

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**Wendy and Mark Cohen** - August 30, 2017 at 10:01 AM

JM

“ *Judy always had a smile and a hug for everyone. Her sweet and kind spirit was a comfort to all she met. My sincerest sympathies go out to you Rhys, and all your children.*  
*Jessica MacMillan*

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**Jessica MacMillan** - August 28, 2017 at 05:44 PM