



Julie Ludlum

September 4, 1925 - February 7, 2013

Thank you for visiting Julie Ludlum's online guestbook. Please take a moment to write your thoughts about my mom. Tell me how you knew her and what memories you have of her. It will help me, and other members of our family capture her essence. She was a wonderful person—very loving, very smart, very thoughtful and generous. She was the best mom, grandma and great-grandma in the whole world. She loved and nurtured us. We were her treasure. No words can begin to explain how much we will miss her presence in our lives. She was our rock. Julie was born on September 4, 1925. I have to smile when I remember how many times she had to repeat her name and date of birth every time the nurse took her vitals at the hospital. During her six weeks in the hospital and rehab we had a chance to recapture her memories of growing up in Los Angeles—one of twelve children in the Garcia family. She always believed her life would have been different if she would have had the resources to go to college. She was a hard worker, though, and she was ambitious. She worked for Encyclopedia Americana in Beverly Hills and rose to the position of executive secretary to the president of the company. She was mighty and brave and battled poverty as a single mom raising me. She was and always will be my hero and my best friend. She married my step-dad in 1958 and we made a succession of moves from the Los Angeles area to Anaheim. She worked at a number of elementary and junior high schools at the principal's secretary. She was a very capable manager. Even when my step-dad bought a peach orchard in Paradise, California, she dove right in and

became a peach farmer. Anything she set her mind to, she did with a combination of tenacity and grace. She was very optimistic in life—always looking for the positive side of any setback and challenge. Before she moved to Colorado, she was employed by the University of California at Davis. After she moved to Colorado in 1993, she worked for the Fort Collins Senior Center. That's where she met Luke Thornton, and for the next 14 years until his death in 2011, they traveled extensively and shared a very special love. Her hobby was baking and she lovingly shared her famous muffins and banana breads with her friends and family. Every service or kindness extended to her was followed up by a "sweet reward." We loved having her close by. In fact, she always commented on how she loved having our three generations only one mile apart. Eventually, she moved right across the street and was so happy to be so close. We enjoyed our regular breakfast at IHOP on Tuesdays. I was able to slip over and enjoy a cup of coffee. She always had coffee ready. Life was about as good as it gets. She loved living in Fort Collins. She loved the mountains, the trees, the blue sky and Old Town. She loved the people of Fort Collins and thought of them as incredibly kind. Then, just after Thanksgiving her health began to decline. She was in and out of the hospital and rehab for about 8 weeks. I treasure the time we had to visit while she was recuperating. She always believed she would get better and was frustrated when she didn't. I never believed we would lose her. We both believed she would come home. I told her she would probably live into her 90's. But, she didn't. And, there is a gaping hole in our hearts where she used to be, bigger than life. So, please share your memories with us. It is through memories that we live on in the hearts of our friends and family. We're so glad you had the chance to know and love Julie. A memorial service will be held on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1005 Stover St, followed by a brief graveside service at Grandview Cemetery. A reception will follow at Julie's home. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to the Larimer Humane Society in care of Bohlender Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524.

Tribute Wall

KD

“ I first met Julie at Leshar. Whether she was dropping something off for her great granddaughter - or for us in the office - which she did often, she was an extraordinary person. I called her my ever ready battery - because she was always there when needed and never stopped giving. We had many short conversations that gave me insight into a life well lived. Julie made space for everyone - I will miss her.

Karen Downing - February 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

EM

“ Julie was such a blessing to anyone and everyone she came in contact with! For the five years that she lived next door, she was more like a grandmother than a neighbor to my kids. We will miss her greatly! Elizabeth, Sean, Peter, Maddie, Meghan, and John McFeely

Elizabeth McFeely - February 24, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SL

“ Susan - I know how much your mother meant to you. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family during this time. She will always be with you wearing that beautiful smile. Hugs - Sara

Sara Lea - February 23, 2013 at 12:00 AM

SV

“ Where to start...Scott and I met Julie and Luke when we moved next door to her on Lancaster Drive in 2005. We had an immediate connection and she was our "neighborhood watch program." Nothing happened on the street without Julie knowing about it! She treated our family as her own. Annika loved visiting Julie even after we moved away because there was always a treat or piece of fruit to be shared. Scott and I also continued to visit Julie as she always had wisdom, stories or just gossip to share . We will all miss her. I'm sure that God welcomed her the same way she greeted everyone at her door, "Come in, my sweet!"

Scott, Kaci, Annika, and Lainey VanDalen - February 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CN

“ julie was one of the bright stars that some of us lucky ones have the joy to experience. I will always miss her deeply. her love ,intellegence and witt I will always remember .

charles neith - February 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BV

“ Dear Gutowsky family We are saddened by your lose. Ms Jullie was a truly unique and loving person. She will be missed greatly. Our sympathy to you all Regards Bob Vangermeersch

Bob Vangermeersch - February 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MK

“ Dear Susan, Wayne, Karly, Marty, Mitchell and Karson, I am saddened by Julie's passing beyond words. Her vitality and spirit were wonderful traits for the family to build on. I would have to say of the folks I've met and worked with over the last couple years noone comes close to Julie. Her intelligence, grace and love of life are worth striving for. I want you to know that she touched everyone in the REMAX office in a wonderful way. Last year, Fran said if we could give out a Client of the Year award Julie most certainly was the overwhelming winner. I loved her and miss her. She was "MY SWEET".

Mark Keller - February 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

AS

“ Susan, I was so sad to hear about your mother's passing. she lived with so much "life." Everyone that had the pleasure of meeting her immediately fell in love with her. She was one of those people who were so fun to be around that you forgot about the time. I pray that you all feel God's comfort in this time.

Andrew Storteboom - February 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM

NH

“ I am so sad to hear about my dear friend. Many people come in and out of our lives, but only a few touch our hearts so deeply as Julie did. I will not forget her. She will be forever missed. "MY Sweet"

Nancy Hilgenberg - February 19, 2013 at 12:00 AM