



Margaret Ann Assel

April 29, 1942 - April 1, 2019

Margaret Ann Assel, 76, passed away on 4/1/2019 at Pathways Hospice in Loveland, Colorado. During her struggle with cancer, she was supported and cared for by her amazing healthcare providers and by the incredible hospice staff.

Marg was born April 29, 1942 in Mandan, North Dakota to Helen and Christian Assel. She was the oldest of five children. She attended Mandan Senior High School and moved to Denver in her early twenties. A few years later she moved to Fort Collins. Marg completed a forty plus year career as a travel agent where she was able to meet people from all walks of life and travel extensively.

Marg enjoyed a very active life participating in her many interests and hobbies. She leaves behind several long-term dear friends that loved and supported her until the end. She was blessed to have had many fond memories of the time she spent with her friends doing everything from playing bridge to cross country road trips.

The highlight of Marg's life was spending time with her 4 grandchildren, who fondly called her "Nanny". Her children Melinda Sharkey (Bradley Schoonveld) and Steven (Christina) survive her. She is also survived by her four siblings, William Assel (Margaret) of New York, Kathy Tillery-Assel (Edward Tillery) of Oklahoma, Thomas Assel (Barbara) of Tennessee, and Christopher Assel (Karen) of North Dakota. Her memory will live on in the countless nieces and nephews who also survive her.

A Rosary will be recited on Thursday, April 25 at St. Joseph's Catholic Church on 300 West Mountain Avenue in Fort Collins from 6-7 pm. A memorial Mass will be celebrated on Friday, April 26 at 2 pm, also at St. Joseph's Catholic Church

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that you consider a donation to either Pathways Hospice or to St. Jude Children's Hospital in her memory.

Previous Events

Rosary

APR **25**. 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (MT)

Saint Joseph Catholic Church
300 W. Mountain Ave.
Fort Collins, 80521

Funeral Mass

APR **26**. 2:00 PM (MT)

Saint Joseph Catholic Church
300 W. Mountain Ave.
Fort Collins, 80521

Tribute Wall

AC

“ Marge was one of my mother’s closest friends for many years. I loved her and called her Aunt Marge. She and her children are like family to us. I have great memories of Marge visiting with us over the years and she was our amazing travel agent for years as well. Marge was so beautiful inside and out. She was so positive and easy to be around. I adored her and she will be greatly missed. Every time my little brother Colton came from Australia to visit we would have lunch with Marge. I will miss those lunches. Steven and Melinda we are so sorry for your loss. We are all here for you whenever you need us. Rest In Peace beautiful Aunt Marge. Anne Contreras

Anne Contreras - April 26, 2019 at 10:30 PM

MS

Annie, our moms have been friends since Colton and I were babies. So many years and such a tight bond. It is to be envied. I can still hear mom calling you "Annie"! All of you meant the world to her! Melinda

melinda sharkey - May 08, 2019 at 08:29 AM



“ Summer's Light Bouquet was purchased for the family of Margaret Ann Assel.



April 22, 2019 at 02:05 PM

KM

“ I first met Marg when I was about 11 or 12 years old (I'm 62 now) when she started working for my dad at Fort Collins Travel. She left for a few years then came back in 1980 where we both worked for nearly 18 years until the agency's closing. She had a no nonsense work ethic and strived for perfection in her job thus creating many repeat customers. My love to Melinda and Steven during this hard time, it was great watching you both grow up.
Kevin McCoy

Kevin McCoy - April 21, 2019 at 03:21 PM

MS

Hello Kevin, it has been years since we spoke and we are both touched by what you wrote. Many great memories from all of those years! We miss our mom dearly. Thank you for reaching out! Melinda

melinda sharkey - May 08, 2019 at 08:26 AM

ST

“ Marge was always a treat to visit with. Whether Discussing travel or investments I always enjoyed getting together with Marge and family. The fun started when discussing grandchildren and family. Time flies, it seems like just the other day sitting around the kitchen table with Marge and two junior high age children discussing education plans and goals. Thanks for the years of friendship, Rest In Peace Marge.
Scott Townsend

Scott Townsend - April 21, 2019 at 10:03 AM

MS

Hello Scott! We have the same great memories of that conversation (s) and all of your extraordinary advise. We appreciate so much the friendship you had with mom and with us both. Melinda

melinda sharkey - May 08, 2019 at 08:28 AM

KF

“*Marg was my travel agent in the years when I was beginning to dip my toe into traveling abroad. She made it possible for me to move to France for several years and become a travel writer as she showed me various tips and tricks to be safe and happy.*

A visit to her desk at Alpine Travel was never a short one. Marg always wanted to hear my latest travel stories. When I returned home, she attended many of my parties and we stayed in touch until she stopped responding.

I'm very sorry to hear she battled cancer at the end but have a feeling it changed her little.

kate Forgach - April 21, 2019 at 08:44 AM

MS

Thank you for reaching out and sharing with us a side of her, her work side, we did not know as well. She always delighted in hearing people's experiences and lives. Melinda

melinda sharkey - May 08, 2019 at 08:30 AM

JK

“*Marg was a good friend. We were amazed by her courage and resilience.*

And her wonderful sense of humor!

We think of her every day and miss her.

You, her family, are the testament to the fine person she was.

Jesse and Ken Kerchenfaut

jesse Kerchenfaut - April 14, 2019 at 12:53 PM

MS

Thank you for posting this. You opened your home to us as well and we appreciate our friendship with you! Melinda

melinda sharkey - April 15, 2019 at 08:15 PM

NT

“ Our deepest sympathy on the death of Marg. So many memories....Bringing Turkeys to Southern Colo and staying with my in-laws....They often commented that she made a mean omelet. Our first barg trip on a river through Germany, was when we got to go with Marg. She was our travel agent for many years and we so appreciated her expertise. Rest in Peace. Our prayers are with the family

John and Nancy Tessari

Nancy Tessari - April 11, 2019 at 06:24 PM

MS

Thank you for taking the time to talk about mom. I know how very fond she was of you both! melinda

melinda sharkey - April 15, 2019 at 08:14 PM

BW

“ Marj scheduled all my dad’s (late Thomas B Borden) personal travel, when he attended SAF, NASF and other forestry related meetings. Her expertise, experience and friendship made “traveling” with her much less stressful.

Please except our deepest condolences on your loss of this terrific woman.

Beth and Clarke Wright

Beth Wright - April 08, 2019 at 05:07 PM

MS

Thank you for sharing your memories of mom. We love hearing about memories we were not a part of and also about the friendships she made over time. Melinda (her daughter)

melinda sharkey - April 15, 2019 at 08:18 PM

SA

“ Marge was my neighbor for many years. She was a strong positive woman. She once told me when we were discussing her diagnosis that she knew her illness would take her, but until then she was going to enjoy her life and fight as long as she could. I have no doubt this attitude gave her extra time with her family who she loved. Marge was one of the good ones and we will miss her smile sense of humor and positive attitude in our neighborhood. Rest in Peace my friend.
Sandy Atchison



Sandy Atchison - April 07, 2019 at 04:18 PM

MS

Thank you, Sandy. Her will to live and live fully was her strength and you are right about how it enabled her to live as long as she could. Mom was always appreciated the friendship she had with you!

melinda sharkey - April 15, 2019 at 08:19 PM

LE

“ I only got to know Marge at the very end of her incredible life. I remember the look on her face when we told her " we've grown rather fond of you and were gonna keep ya". She was so happy.(and so were we!) :-) I really enjoyed listening to her talk about her likes and dislikes. She had such a sweet disposition and also such strength! I also loved seeing her beaming face when her grand kids came to visit :-) It was honor and a privilege to spend time with Marge, and to make sure her journey was as peaceful and beautiful as possible. Your family is amazing, and I will keep you in my thoughts and prayers.
Leanne K

Leanne - April 05, 2019 at 06:13 PM

MS

Our gratitude to you in making her journey peaceful and beautiful is beyond words. She was so well cared for and so content. You also brightened her days. Thank you! Melinda

melinda sharkey - April 15, 2019 at 08:23 PM

KH

I met Marge thru some of her other friends. It was such a delight to see her lovely shining smile at Mike's. I so appreciated her humor, wit, and perceptions be they personal issues or city, state issues. I send loving support to all her family.

Kirsten Hartman - April 26, 2019 at 03:09 PM