



## Murdene A. Lilyblade

June 10, 1929 - April 18, 2014

Murdene A. Lilyblade, born June 10, 1929 in Boulder, Colorado, died April 18, 2014 at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado, as a result of complications from an intestinal infection. Murdene's parents, Murdock A. and Annie Christene MacKenzie, immigrated to the United States from Cape Britton, Nova Scotia and settled in Nederland, Colorado. Murdene graduated from Nederland High School in 1946 in a class of 4, all women. She married Paul E. Lilyblade, also of Nederland, Colorado, in 1948. Paul and Murdene moved to Fort Collins, Colorado in 1949. Paul predeceased her. Murdene is survived by three children, Christine A. Martell and her spouse, James, Barbara K. Breen and her spouse, Aaron, David K. Lilyblade and his spouse, Sue; six grandchildren, Christene Nichols and her spouse, Josh who are expecting their first child, Jerrilynn Lilyblade and her spouse, Mark Kauffman, Trina Lilyblade, Annie Lilyblade and her spouse, Scott Mikulak, Sara Zahm and her spouse, Aaron, Maggie Tuck and her spouse, Justin who are expecting their first child; five great grandchildren, Nigel Lilyblade, Ezra Lilyblade, Sofia Kauffman, Anderson Zahm, Haley Mikulak; and many dear friends. Murdene was a member of P.E.O. Chapter G. Murdene was a voracious reader, an avid sports fan and a strong supporter of the arts. She was knowledgeable and articulate on political issues and current affairs, and had a firm belief in equality, social justice and human rights. She spent her life nurturing and supporting her family and friends. She was a devoted mother and grandmother to her own family and many others. Murdene was a

delightful, caring friend to all those who had the privilege of having come in contact with her. She was deeply loved and respected and will be greatly missed. Her family respectfully requests that those desiring to honor Murdene, please consider making a contribution to the Colorado State University Foundation, Lilyblade Art Scholarship; The Global Village Museum of Arts and Culture; or the Human Rights Campaign in care of Bohlander Funeral Chapel, 121 W. Olive, Fort Collins, CO 80524. A celebration of Murdene's life will be held Sunday, April 27, 2014 from 2 until 5 PM at Café Vino, 1200 South College Avenue, Fort Collins, Colorado.

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ To Murdene's loving family - I was so shocked to here of your Mom's passing. I had recently visited with Christy at the Art Museum and asked about her. But as we all know, we only have the moment. I'm sorry I was not able to attend her Celebration of Live gathering, Murdene has always held a special place in my heart. Growing up, we shared so much time together, sleep overs and the like, I felt as though she was my second mom! To this day, when driving down Taft Hill, the fond memories rush in as I catch a glimpse of your childhood home. She was such a warm, loving and caring woman. She will be missed in so many ways, by so many. I feel so blessed to have known her. My prayers are with you. Love,  
Sharon Whiteman

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**Sharon Whiteman** - May 05, 2014 at 12:00 AM

VN

“ To Christy and Lilyblade family, I am so sorry on the loss of you dear Mom. You are in my prayers. Trust in God who comforts and gives us strength because He loves us.

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**Vickie Nunnally-Tenorio** - April 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ We were fortunate to meet your mother when we bought a condo at Cortina. For the past few years we went to breakfast with her & Joanne Harrison, sharing stories of our lives and families. We had recently left FC for our summer home in MI when we received the shocking news of her death. While we were devastated at the news and our life at Cortina will not be the same without her, we feel fortunate to have known her. Our sincere sympathy to your families.  
Lynne Deur & Jean McCabe.

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**Lynne Deur** - April 28, 2014 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ We wanted to express our sympathies for the loss of your wonderful mother. She was a lovely lady, and has been a good friend to many people. Our family is grateful she touched our lives.

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**Todd and Cindy Howerton** - April 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

AA

“ To Christy and the Lilyblade family: My deepest sympathy to you on the loss of your mother. She raised a wonderful family, and will be missed greatly. Give thanks for the time you had with her. Continue to do well in your lives as a tribute to her. You are in my prayers.  
Aggie

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**Aggie Austin-Guyer** - April 27, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ I remember how kind Murdene was to the girls in our class - particularly at a backyard gathering at Christi's years ago. Also, I always enjoyed seeing her at the Lincoln Center - and how much she enjoyed those events. My condolences to all the family. I did notify PHS 67 classmates. Debbie Dixon

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**Debbe Dixon** - April 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DW

“ Jim & Christie, We were so saddened to read about Murdene's passing. She was such a lovely lady both inwardly and outwardly. I know your entire family as well as many others will feel the loss. Our prayers for comfort are with you and we pray loving memories will sustain you. David and Carol Wood

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**David & Carol Wood** - April 26, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CT

“ *My heartfelt sympathy and condolences to the Lilyblade family. I send hugs to every one. Christy, I do know your strength and courage will help get through this sad time.*

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**Crystal Toliver** - April 25, 2014 at 12:00 AM

HB

“ *During this time of sadness may fond memories sooth your spirit,comfort your soul,and bring you peace. from the Hersch Breen Family*

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**Hersch Breen** - April 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. I have such great memories of Murdene and my mom spending time together. She was a really nice lady and was a great friend to my mom. I will miss hearing from her at Christmas time. My thoughts are with you all. No matter how old you are, the loss of a parent is hard!! I would love to come to the memorial, but I watch my 3 little grandsons on Sundays. Sincerly, Jana Chesnut Borland*

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**Jana Chesnut Borland** - April 24, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LJ

“ *Dear Barb, I want to add my condolences to you and your family. Although our lives have seldom intersected since our school days in Ft. Collins, I still recall your mother as a very lovely lady. My best to you all.*

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**Laurie Sterns Jensch** - April 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

PG

“*Christie, Barb and David, et.al: Can't think of anyone more fortunate than all of you for having Murdene as a Mom, Grandmother and Great Grandmother. We feel so lucky to have had Murdene and Paul as the best neighbor and friend for so many years. My favorite moment was when she came across the street for an unexpected visit and my house looked like a tornado had just passed through. My two young kids and the dog had been playing and building forts out of furniture. I tried to apologize to her for not having a ready place to sit. Her response was "Patty I love this look. It feels good to see that kids are allowed to have so much fun." She then replaced a couch cushion and sat down for a really nice visit. I loved that women!!! Patty Grant*

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**patty and lee grant** - April 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BS

“*We were saddened to hear of the passing of Murdene, mother and grandmother. Many fond memories surface of times spent sharing when she lived on Taft Hill Road.*

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**Barbara & Glenn Shull** - April 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CB

“*My condolences to Murdene's family. I live in the Lindenwood neighborhood and have such great memories of talking to Murdene, especially when my daughter sold her many cookies every Girl Scout year! She was always a delight to talk to and was such a warm person. I had already missed her a lot in the neighborhood. I am sorry for your loss. Sincerely, Carolyn Beiser*

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**Carolyn Beiser** - April 23, 2014 at 12:00 AM

OP

“ Dear Christy & Family, I was so sorry to read of Murdene's passing. She was a beautiful person. I have such fond memories of her. My prayers are with you & your family during this sad time.

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**Olivia Peterson** - April 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

CG

“ Our thoughts and prayers will be with the family. She will be missed by her friends and P.E.O. sisters.

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**Carolyn and Jane Goodwin** - April 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BA

“ Murdene was my pal, and I will miss her dearly. In all of the years that we shared in serving various elementary schools in Fort Collins, we shared a deep personal and professional bond. All the times we laughed, and cried, and forged on were great memories and accomplishments for us. When we would get together since that time we always laughed and had fond memories of those times. She was a wonderful person, very caring and generous, and ready at a moments notice to join in on whatever you had going on. A part of me has been taken away with Murdene's passing, and I will have wonderful, fond memories of her forever.

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**Bob Asmus** - April 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ I am so sorry for your loss. Murdene was a lovely lady. I often think of the time I took her with me to Las Vegas. She grudgingly agreed to go with me, but made certain I knew that she did not like to fly. This was fairly soon after Paul's death, and she was still finding her way. I think she had a good time once we arrived, and she did say that there was one good thing about Vegas, and that was there was no stress and time boundaries, and we only had to think about ourselves, which usually was to find a good Restaurant for our next meal, and to find a loose slot machine!!! Of course we did not make any money, but I found on the trip, a new friend, and we did not get together much afterwards, but I hope I was helpful to her in that particular time in her life. I would occasionally run into her in and about town, and we always made plans to meet for lunch, but time just got away from us. I will miss seeing her!! Marjie

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**Marjie Smith** - April 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ Christy and Jim and family, So sorry to hear about your mom. You're in our thoughts.

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**Barb and Dennis Gardner** - April 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM

LL

“ I remember the Lilyblades and Martells from my days working for their family doctor when I was fresh out of nursing school. Murdene was a kind lady and the matriarch of a very gracious family. I was sorry to read of your loss. I'm sure Murdene will be greatly missed. My deepest condolences for her entire family.

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**Leigh Larson** - April 22, 2014 at 12:00 AM