



Vanessa McIver

April 6, 1960 - April 15, 2020

Born April 6, 1960 in Ardmore, OK and raised in southern Oklahoma, Vanessa McIver went to her heavenly home on April 15, 2020 while living in Buford, GA following a courageous battle with cancer.

Vanessa graduated as valedictorian of her high school class in Marietta, OK, and pursued a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Oklahoma State University. Following graduation from OSU, she became employed in the life insurance industry and was ultimately promoted to Senior Underwriting Consultant.

At the age of 35, she packed her car and drove east to Boston, MA to train as a life insurance underwriter. A firm believer in continuing education, Vanessa earned numerous insurance industry designations during her career and enjoyed mentoring other underwriters as they pursued their industry educational goals.

Vanessa loved collecting paintings from local artists, as well as traveling across the US, Scotland, England, and Wales. In 1998, Vanessa and a friend from the Scottish Club of Tulsa toured the United Kingdom. While Vanessa dreamed of returning to Scotland, cancer interfered with those dreams.

As a McIver, she loved all things Scottish and was a founding member of Clan Donnachaidh (pronounced "donna-key"), Midwest Branch, in the early 1990's. She was the first newsletter editor of the Midwest Branch and named the newsletter The Donnachaidh Difference, which it remains to this day.

Always a fan of rodeos, Vanessa became an avid fan of Professional Bull Riding and attended PBR events whenever they came to town. She even made a once in a lifetime trip to the PBR Finals in Las Vegas.

Wherever she went, Vanessa had a smile on her face. Vanessa's passion was Square Dancing. A member of Fun Times and Jug Tavern square dance clubs, she danced

several nights a week. When asked how she remained happy in the face of adversity, she replied that she trusted in God and she chose happiness. There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens (Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8).

She was preceded in death by her parents, Jack B. and India Pratt McIver; maternal grandparents, Henry & Hattie Pratt; paternal grandparents, Gerald McIver and Olen and Margaret McIver Walker. The Love of Her Life, Joe Ramirez predeceased Vanessa in March 2017.

She is survived by two brothers and sisters-in-law: David and Ann McIver (Brownsburg, IN) and Roger and Liz McIver (Blair, OK); two sisters and brothers-in-law: Laura and David Bennett (Fruita, CO) and Ann and James Greenwood (Marietta, OK); One niece, Angel Greenwood and three nephews: Dillen Greenwood, Stefan Soder, and Kevin McIver.

A Memorial Service to celebrate the Life of Vanessa McIver will be held later this summer at Flanigan Funeral Home Buford, GA. Arrangements will be announced.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made in Vanessa's memory to either the Sarcoma Alliance (<http://www.sarcomaalliance.org>) providing resources and services to people affected by sarcoma or to the Western Sports Foundation (<https://www.westernsportsfoundation.org/>), a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the overall success of western sports athletes.

Comments



“ I am from Durant, Oklahoma and remember Vanessa from childhood. The photo here looks exactly like I recall from so many years ago. We always referred to the McIver twins and I remember learning "This Little Light of Mine," with them at VBS. Heartbreaking....so sorry for your loss.
Sincerely, Cheryl Peters Phelps, DHS Class of 1977

Cheryl Phelps - June 19, 2020 at 01:34 PM



“ We are so sorry to hear of Vanessa's passing. We graduated with Vanessa and Laura at Marietta High School in Marietta, Oklahoma in 1978. Looking back, there are many great memories from band trips. We remember Vanessa as always wearing a smile and a very sweet person. We extend our prayers to Laura and the entire family as they adjust their lives to Vanessa's transition. May God's peace and comfort be with you.

The Rambo Twins--Annette Rambo-Lawson and Danette Rambo



Danette Rambo - May 04, 2020 at 05:16 PM



“ I knew Vanessa from high school and college years ago. Reading the tributes on this page I can see she was the same Vanessa I remember. A joy to be around , always a smile on her face and so many good memories of her. My sincere condolences to her family and friends. Tod Nichols

tod nichols - April 30, 2020 at 02:16 PM



“ Bob and I knew Vanessa from square dancing. We were always so amazed at her sunny personality and infectious smile while she was going thru so much sickness. We were so happy when she and Joe began dating, they were so perfect for each other. Carol and I visited with Vanessa at the assisted living facility and had plans to revisit in about a month; but that was not to be. Just want you to know, girlfriend, how special and loved you were in our square dance family. We miss you. A very special yellow rock to you in heaven - and - give Joe one from us also.

Brenda Strickland

Brenda Strickland - April 27, 2020 at 12:58 PM



“ I worked with Vanessa for several years and remember the fight she went through. She loved life, she always had a smile on her face and was a joy to be around. Loved her square dancing outfits too. My sincere condolences to the family, she will be missed.

Laura Amos

Laura - April 27, 2020 at 11:46 AM



“ I can't believe I'm reading this. You fought the brave fight, but what else would you expect from a Scot? I was so blessed to meet you as a co-boardmember of the Oklahoma Scottish Games and Gathering in Tulsa; be the other half of the “No Makeup , Jeans , and T-shirt Tour of England , Scotland , and Wales 1999”; and then PBR in Las Vegas just before they retired Blueberry Wine. Visiting you in Boston to go see fall foliage and covered bridges; running into a couple from Scotland who insisted we would not know where they were from. Silly them, they were from Achnasheen and we knew where that was. I so hope to make one more trip, and I will think of you and say hello to a couple of Scotsman for you. My friend, we will miss you, but know that you are having fun in Heaven square dancing with Joe.

Paige McClain - April 26, 2020 at 09:02 PM



“ I can speak on the behalf of the New Directions Class of Boston Avenue United Methodist Church. Vanessa was an integral part of the beginning and success of our very popular singles class. We hated to see her leave to pursue her career, but we understood. Now we face yet another loss of a great lady, and again WE UNDERSTAND.

Love and Peace to you and our sympathies and understanding to your siblings from your Church friends in Tulsa

Mark Storey - April 26, 2020 at 04:01 PM