



Linda Atkinson

July 31, 1947 - July 21, 2020

Linda Rush Atkinson, of Escondido, California, passed away from this life on Tuesday, July 21, 2020.

She was born Linda Mary Rush on July 31, 1947, at Camp La Jeune, North Carolina. Her father was George J. Rush, her mother Nora M. Rush. Linda was the third child of six siblings—Norene, Michael, Linda, Patrick, Georgia and Mary Katherine (Kitty). Linda's parents settled and raised their six children in Syracuse, New York.

A joyful girl with an infectious smile, Linda graduated from West Genesee Central High School in 1965. She joined General Motors and moved to Terrytown, New York. Linda met and married Harvey Beal Atkinson, beginning their 42 year marriage on November 25, 1977. Their love and friendship lasted until Harvey's death in July 2019. At her marriage Linda became the beloved stepmother of Harvey's three children, Lisa Atkinson, James Atkinson and Leslie (Atkinson) Burns.

Linda and Harvey relocated from New York to San Diego in 1978, living in Rancho Bernardo until they moved to their long-time home in Escondido. They both loved the sun, sand and surf of San Diego. Most weekends they sailed and socialized with their friends of the Mission Bay Sunfish Fleet. Linda and Harvey also enjoyed road trips to the most beautiful parts of the American West, enjoying such places as Borrego Springs, Joshua Tree National Park, and Colorado. Linda loved tending her rose bushes and trying new recipes. Linda and Harvey enjoyed their rescued cat friends over the years, especially their first kitty, Gato.

Linda joined Blanchard Training and Development in Escondido, retiring in 2013. For years Harvey and Linda volunteered as Friends of the Escondido Public Library. Both turned their love of books, learning and their community into many happy years of service in support of the Library

Linda was a life-long learner with a curious spirit who read and studied widely about her

many interests. She was especially interested in world events, history and literature. Linda studied at Palomar Community College in the 1980s, continuing her education throughout her life. She shared her love of art work with her step-daughter Lisa. Lately, Linda was reading Mark Twain and studying the history of the development of the human species.

A beautiful person with a ready smile and generous heart, Linda enjoyed warm relationships and visits with family, friends, co-workers and neighbors. She is greatly missed.

In addition to her sisters Norene Saccone, Georgia Grady (Mark), Mary Lombardo (John), and Karen Rush, Linda is survived by her step-children Lisa Atkinson, James Atkinson, and Leslie Burns (David), her step-grandson Daniel Burns, and her nieces and nephews. No services are planned at this time. Linda will be interred with her beloved husband Harvey at the Miramar National Cemetery.

The family suggests that any donations be made to support the work of the Friends of the Escondido Public Library, or the animal rescue or children's charity of your choice. Linda's family welcomes your remembrances, which you may direct to Georgia Grady, 113 Wilshire Road, Syracuse, New York 13209, mrs31@twcny.rr.com, or Lisa Atkinson, 142 Wildwood Drive, Gainesville, Missouri 65655, lisacatkinson@gmail.com.

Cemetery

Miramar National Cemetery

5795 Nobel Drive

San Diego, CA, 92122