



Louise Borges McGrew, RN, BSN, MSN, CNAA

November 11, 1940 - September 15, 2017

Louise Borges McGrew died September 15, 2017, from complications after heart surgery. She was 76 years old.

Louise was the third child of Joseph R. Borges Sr. and Anna Wilhemia (Lorenzo) Borges, born in a farmhouse on November 11, 1940. She grew up on her parents' farm southeast of Tulare, where she shared exploits with her sister (Arlene) and older brothers; motorcycle rides (Joe Junior) and boating (Richard) at the reservoir. She attended Tulare Union High School participating in after school sports and won Sophomore Princess.

An early marriage produced three children: Carl, Rosemarie, and Melanie. Louise considered them her proudest achievements, and sacrificed for them her entire life. She raised them to work hard, be frugal, and the importance of family. In addition to attendance at Catholic elementary schools, she encouraged and supported their participation in Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, 4-H, music lessons, after-school sports, and horseback riding.

After her marriage to Dr. Donald McGrew, Louise returned to school, and earned her AA in Nursing from College of Sequoias (COS) in 1974. She earned her BSN from Fresno State University in 1981, and her MSN from the University of California, Consortium in 1987. She worked at Tulare District Hospital and was Director of Nurses at Exeter Memorial Hospital before beginning her employment at Kaweah Delta Health Care District in 1986. Over her 31 years at KDHCDC she served as Inpatient Director, Lead House Supervisor, manager of Float Pool and was still employed as a Relief House

Supervisor. Her passion for helping others and giving back to the community, lead her to become an adjunct clinical instructor for the COS Nursing Program from 1998-2017. Louise demanded excellence from herself and others. In 2003, she was recognized as COS Nurse of the Year and in 2004 earned the Nightingale Award.

In January of 1980 a mutual friend introduced her to Bob Knutson, who became her Master Craft boat driver, mechanic, shooting range instructor and best friend for the rest of her life. She was on his NHRA drag racing team along with his NDBA and IHBA drag boat racing team. They enjoyed traveling to races and slalom water skiing tournaments. In 2004, she was the Central California INT slalom women's champion and went on to place 7th at the INT International Competition. They spent many early mornings on the lake where she taught her children and grandchildren to water ski and wake board. Even in the cold water of March she was forever on the lake. She would say if the water is cold get up on the first try ("Hit it!"). Summers were spent camping by the lake, and practicing target shooting whereas, winter meant cross-country skiing in Sequoia National Park. Louise and Bob enjoyed Porterville Sidewinder 4 Wheel Club and went on many rock crawling adventures. She was also accurate with her pistol and AR15, she proudly earned her CCW at age 75.

She is survived by her brother Richard (Mary) Borges, sister Arlene Mulder (Al), three children: Carl McGrew (Jo Scott), Rosemarie Lewis (Danny), and Melanie Beatty (Scott); grandchildren: Erann Bulman, Kortney Celillo (Mario), Michael Lewis, Brandon Lewis (Larissa), Brett Lewis, Raeanna Dean (Sean), and Caitlin Beatty; three great-grandchildren: Jordyn, Beau, and Tyler (Celillo) and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents Joseph and Anna Wilhemia Borges, her Godmother Belmida Lorenzo, her brother Joseph Jr. and nephew David Borges.

Louise was a devoted long-time worshipper at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Visalia, supported George McCann School and gave eucharist to ill patients. Recitation of the rosary will be held Monday, September 25, 2017 at 6 pm at

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. A Mass of the Christian burial will be held Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 10 am at St. Mary's Catholic Church, followed by a graveside service at Tulare District Cemetery. A Nursing scholarship has been established in Louise's honor. Remembrances may be sent to: COS Foundation Tribute: Louise McGrew, 915 S. Mooney Boulevard Visalia, CA 93277 or online at COS.edu/Foundation include Louise McGrew's name.

Condolences can be made to www.salseranddillard.com

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

SEP **26.** 10:00 AM (PT)

St. Mary's Catholic Church - Visalia, CA
608 N. Church Street
Visalia, CA 93291

Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Louise Borges McGrew, RN, BSN, MSN, CNA*



Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel - September 15, 2017 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *I don't even know where to start. I worked under Louise when she was House Sup. She set the bar high as a patient advocate. I remember scrubbing the room floor with her to get ready to receive a patient because house keeping were busy elsewhere. One night ICU was too busy to get dinner. I called Louis to ask for dinner trays for staff, it was during Lint on a Thursday night. She said she would get us dinner trays but if it was after midnight we were all considered Catholic so would be fed fish. It was yummy. Louise, you will be missed. I love you, Charlotte Cotta retired RN, BSN*

Charlotte Cotta retired ICU RN, BSN - September 27, 2017 at 12:01 AM

SE

“ Your Mom, was always so strong, I'm sorry I didn't stay in touch to know that she wasn't well. Louise was with me and helped me through when my Mom passed. I'm sure you know how much she cared for her children and family and always put you guys first and how proud of all of you she was.

Sincerely,
Sherry (Watkins) Estabrooks

Sherry Estabrooks - September 26, 2017 at 12:56 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Louise Borges McGrew, RN, BSN, MSN, CNA.



September 25, 2017 at 03:43 PM

MB

“ Louise was a real nurse. You know the kind. They are always professional, deeply caring, a fierce advocate. Her standards for herself and those around her were high. She was so very knowledgeable and very willing to share. I will miss her very much. Mia Bonvie RN. (I want to be a "Real" nurse someday)

Mia Bonvie - September 24, 2017 at 10:37 PM

CS

“ Our hearts go out to all of you. She was such a strong, caring person who gave from her heart. Our love and sympathy.

Pat and Cathy Smith

Cathy Smith - September 24, 2017 at 12:13 PM

PW

“ Our family is filled with such sadness to hear of Louise's passing. In 1974 we moved to Visalia, and for the last 43 years we were blessed to be neighbors with Louise. This past summer our dad sold the childhood home, but we knew we could always drive down the street and see her.

If we weren't knocking on her door for a medical question about mom or pop, we would chat outside briefly to catch up. Louise was always so active, mowing her lawn or washing her car, she was such a wonderful person.

Growing up Melanie, Louise's youngest daughter, was not just our babysitter, but our big sister. She taught me to love books. Some of our best childhood memories include Louise and her family.

Watching them get Blaze the horse ready for parades, walking around the block with the pet dogs Shiny and Cloudy. Thank you for the memories. May God bring you peace knowing that your Mother and your family brought us so much happiness over the years. We love you,

Dave, Susan (our Angel), Erik, Pam and Jason

pamela walker - September 20, 2017 at 08:50 PM

AM

“ *I will always remember Louise with much respect and admiration. She was a woman strong in her conviction and fair to all who worked under her. She will really be missed.*

-Angela Martin-Rodriguez

Angela Martin-Rodriguez - September 20, 2017 at 12:44 AM

BR

“ *The world has lost a nurse. Louise was many things in her life but to me she was the best nurse I have ever met. She was my boss and my mentor, she set the pace and the example, she supported her staff always. To me it was an honor to be asked to work for her and I worked hard to learn from her example.*

Her family have lost a mother and grandmother and I grieve for your loss, know in your hearts that she was loved and respected by so many.

Belinda Martin, RN - September 18, 2017 at 11:47 AM