



Donna Elaine Thompson

August 26, 1959 - March 8, 2015

After a protracted battle with cancer for 18 years, Donna Elaine Thompson passed away on March 8th, 2015, at the age of 55 in Rancho Bernardo, CA. Donna was born (Donna Elaine Ray) on August 26th, 1959 in Visalia, Ca, growing up there and graduating from Mt. Whitney high school in 1977. She grew up in a loving family with one sister and two brothers in the San Joaquin Valley. In college, she graduated from College of the Sequoias with an AA degree and also earned a BA degree in Geography, with a minor in Meteorology, from California State University Fresno (Fresno State) in 1984. Donna is survived by her husband, Gary Thompson and their son, Thomas Thompson, both of Ramona, CA; her mother, Carol Russell in Visalia, CA and her two brothers, Jeff Ray of San Antonio, TX and Clark Ray of Santa Rosa, CA. Donna was preceded in death by her father, Harold Ray and sister, Daisy Ray.

After they met in Visalia, Donna married Gary Thompson on March 14, 1987 in Los Angeles, CA. Gary is retired now and worked for Raytheon Company as a Program Manager. Donna and Gary have lived in Visalia and Los Angeles, CA, Tucson, AZ, Hanford, CA and moved to their current residence in Ramona, CA in 2000.

Donna worked in sales at a bookstore, as an administrator in banking and other industries and worked as a cost accountant for Hughes Aircraft Company. After the birth of Thomas, Donna became a full time homemaker and mother, her greatest passion in life. Donna's interests included her sewing

projects, raising Thomas, a love of reading science fiction, and her pet cat “Kitty”.

When diagnosed with brain cancer in 1997, Donna remained dedicated in her family and in her will to fight her illness. She remained a brave woman, even throughout the difficult last five years and in her final months since her last surgery in September, 2014.

A Celebration of Life ceremony for Donna will be held in her home town of Visalia, CA, at 11:00 AM on Saturday the 21st of March at the Salser and Dillard Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Ave, Visalia, CA 93277.

A memorial tribute may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

MAR 21. 11:00 AM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 635-1144
info@salseranddillard.com
<https://www.salseranddillard.com>

Tribute Wall

JB

“ *In Memory of my dear friend, Donna: The first time I had the pleasure of meeting you and Thomas was in my Hanford Recreation "Tumbling Teddy's" classroom when Thomas was I believe 4 years old. I will always cherish the wonderful times you, Sharon Melvin and myself had celebrating our birthdays by going out to lunch together - Hanford Cantina and the old Cellar, I remember the awesome cheese spread and crackers Penny use to make. Special times with you and Thomas at your home and at the Hidden Valley Park across from your house in Hanford.*

I will always remember what an avid reader you were, an exceptional seamstress, awesome mother to Thomas and wife to Gary and the yummy dinners you use to make. You were ever so giving, caring, kind, and compassionate and loved your Lord Jesus. I will always love and miss you, but I know that you are now home with our dear Lord Jesus, holding His hands, looking into His wonderful face, you are now completely healed and enjoying your grand homecoming. Love and God Bless You Always!!!! Jean Boudah (Ms. Jean, "Tumbling Teddy's")

Jean M. Boudah - March 11, 2015 at 10:00 PM