



## Tara Denise Collins Dudley

August 30, 1964 - June 12, 2019

Tara was born August 30, 1964 in Hollywood, CA to parents Judy and Jim "JP" Collins. She passed away peacefully at her home in Visalia on June 12, 2019 at the age of 54.

Tara grew up in Chatsworth, CA where she was a lifeguard and swim instructor and worked part-time at her parents' educational toy store. She attended Chatsworth High School and then Cal Poly SLO, where she majored in environmental science.

Tara met her husband, Chris Dudley, at a San Luis Obispo laundromat in September 1987 and things would never be the same. They married February 1989 in Cambria, CA. Tara's two children, Ryan (born 1994) and Jillian (born 1998), were her greatest source of pride. The Dudley family moved to Visalia in 1999 where Tara and Chris have lived since.

Tara was an avid classroom and library volunteer at her children's schools. She was very passionate about her work with the PTA, holding numerous leadership positions including District President for Visalia Unified. She was a familiar face in Downtown Visalia and could never go out in town without running into and engaging in conversations with her many friends who she cared about deeply.

Tara was an animal lover and had many special dogs throughout her life. She felt very connected to the Earth and loved all things nature, especially the beaches of the Central Coast and Southern California where she grew up. She was an extremely caring and thoughtful person who was constantly looking to do nice things for those around her. Tara will be best remembered as an extraordinary wife and mother with unlimited love and patience.

Tara is survived by her parents, stepfather (Richard Peters), sister (Sharon Hermone), husband, and two children.

Memorial service will be held at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel in Visalia on Saturday, June 22 at 3:00 pm. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to a charitable cause of choice (the work of the Alzheimer's Association in particular is near to the family's hearts). Condolences can be made to [www.salseranddillard.com](http://www.salseranddillard.com)

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN **22**. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel  
127 E. Caldwell Ave.  
Visalia, CA 93277

# Tribute Wall



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Webcast in memory of Tara Denise Collins Dudley*



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**Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel** - June 22, 2019 at 05:43 PM



“ *Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel created a Tribute Video in memory of Tara Denise Collins Dudley*



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**Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel** - June 22, 2019 at 05:43 PM

CH

*Oh I'm heartbroken I'm so sad Chris. I still go back to our days, those days where she was a strength for both of us. I never have and never will forget our moments together. I'm sorry for those who will never know the souls that remain with us. I loved her...Charlene*

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**Charlene** - August 03, 2025 at 12:01 AM

LF

“ Our deepest condolences to your family. In this time of sorrow it is hard to let someone you love go. She is resting peacefully. Take comfort in each other and the Lord’s love.

*The Fleming family,  
Mark, Lisa, Eryn, and Ashley.*

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**Lisa Fleming** - June 20, 2019 at 10:47 PM

MR

“ *Marivel Rodarte lit a candle in memory of Tara  
Denise Collins Dudley*



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**Marivel Rodarte** - June 13, 2019 at 03:13 PM