

Obituaries



SHARON MULLIN
July 8, 1939 - Jan. 18, 2019

Sharon Lee Mullin (Lewis, Gooding), 79, died peacefully at home in Naples, FL, Jan. 18. She was born July 8, 1939, in Des Moines, to Howard and Arabelle (Crone) Lewis, and was the younger sister of Thomas Lewis (Tom).

Raised in the Highland Park area of Des Moines, Sharon was a graduate of the North High School class of 1957. A gifted pianist with perfect pitch, Sharon played piano in the school orchestra. She was also Senior Class Historian and a straight-A student. She walked several miles to school each day, in all seasons, and received a Perfect Attendance Award for never missing a day throughout her four years of high school.

Sharon carried this strong work ethic into her working life. She had various administrative roles at Iowa Power & Light and NAPA Auto Parts in Des Moines, and Sig Mfg. in Montezuma.

As an empty-nester, she and her husband Dave were managers at Motel 6 and Storage USA at various US locations. Before retirement, Sharon worked part-time at Walmart in Ankeny, as a smiling and helpful greeter.

The role that was most meaningful to Sharon was being a mom. Her six daughters (and numerous others) relied on her wisdom and were touched by her huge heart and unconditional love. She was also a loving mother to several dogs.

In her free time, Sharon was a talented crafter, an avid sports fan, an animal welfare advocate, and a keen user of modern technology. It brought Sharon great joy to crochet blankets and hats for her grandchildren and

great grandchildren. Women around the world have been beneficiaries of Sharon's custom-made kitchen towels and pot holders. She supported The Alpha Women's Center in Ankeny for over ten years by donating hand crocheted baby items for expectant mothers. Sharon loved all sports, but particularly loved following the Chicago Cubs and Iowa Hawkeyes. Sharon also had a love for animals; once even befriending a wild squirrel who she trained to come down from its tree for an Oreo cookie when called! Sharon rode the digital wave with ease and enjoyed making contact on social media with family and friends throughout the world, especially during her retirement years.

Sharon is survived by her husband of 42 years, David A Mullin, as well as her six daughters: Kimberly Misch of Stockton, CA, Kristi (Bill) Grigsby of Naples, FL, Dana (Scott) Rosheim of Bondurant, Deanna (Mike) Watson of Ankeny, Kelly (Chris) Warren of Sunningdale, England, and Danelle (Joe) Strantz of Guam. She is also survived by 16 grandchildren: Meghan Khan, Michael and Mason Hamann; Jennifer and Dayna Grigsby; Nathan Smith, Chelsea Jahn, and Macenzie Seymour; Josh Phillips, Ashley Enderson, and Derek Watson; Nicole and Jamie Warren; and Cali, Shea, and Zayne Strantz. Sharon is further survived by 12 great grandchildren: Alina, Sarina, Adam, Maya, Alivia and Arya Khan; Caelix and Cobie Jahn; Ellie, Kylie and Lynlie Enderson; and Freddy and William Watson.

All of Sharon's family wish to extend their gratitude to the hospice team of Vitas for the outpouring of care and love during Sharon's illness. Special thanks to those who regularly brought a smile to Sharon's face: Marie, Simon, Tiffany, and Nicole.

Sharon approached her illness in the same manner that she lived her life - with grace, humility, laughter, and an unwavering faith. A kind, strong, and humble woman, Sharon touched the lives of many and leaves behind a footprint of love that stretches the globe.

Contributions to honor Sharon's life may be made to the following charities: Animal Rescue League of Iowa (515) 262-9503 www.arl-iowa.org and Alpha Women's Center, Ankeny, Iowa (515) 965-7885 www.awcdesmoines.org