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6-26-2023

Maria Corry

Maria Corry, 45, formerly of Grinnell, died April 2023 in Englewood, Colorado. A memorial prayer and sermon was held for family and friends in Denver, Colorado, shortly after her death. A monument dedication is planned for later this year, also to be in Colorado. Memorials, flowers, or donations in her memory may be directed to Lead Pastor Brad Strait, Cherry Creek Presbyterian



Church, 10150 E. Belleview, Englewood, Colorado 80111 or online at www.cherrycreekpres.com, where Maria was a member.

Maria was born November 27, 1977, in Minsk, Belarusian S.S.R., USSR (now Belarus). As a child, Maria excelled in the Young Pioneers, a compulsory youth scouting organization for schoolchildren in the Soviet Union. Wearing the white shirt and red scarf of the uniform, Maria was selected to serve as flag-raiser, an honor within that patriotic system. In summers during her childhood; Maria would enjoy animals, farming, and nature at the family's dacha in the small idyllic countryside village of Kitin, Belarusian S.S.R.

In 1986, the Chernobyl nuclear disaster occurred about 200 miles from Maria's home. To avoid radiation, Maria's parents sent young Maria alone on a train, to distant relatives and friends in the Tajik Soviet Socialist Republic, USSR (now Tajikistan). For a long time, young Maria lived among the native population in the remote high mountain desert of Tajikistan. Maria told stories of the Tajik culture; riding camels, and playing the Tajik version of polo, using a goat stomach or carcass while astride a horse or camel. The Tajik interlude in Maria's life may have saved her fertility, as some of her peers who remained behind in Minsk had later difficulty bearing children.

Maria studied classical piano at the Glinka Minsk State School of Music. After completing secondary school, Maria enrolled in the Belarusian State Medical University in Minsk. She earned her degree as a physician, with an emphasis on epidemiology and public health.

Due in part to political turmoil in her native Belarus, Maria emigrated to the United States and became a U.S. citizen in 2006, settling in Colorado. She earned a Master of Science degree in Family Nurse Practice from Regis University of Denver, Colorado, in 2017. Maria was a licensed Registered Nurse as well as a licensed Nurse Practitioner in numerous states. During her nursing career, she served as Public Health Officer and Compliance Investigator for the Health Facilities & Emergency Medical Services Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and practiced at private sector clinics in Colorado and Iowa, and as a traveling nurse.

In her spare time, Maria enjoyed church, politics, international and domestic travel, hiking, camping, skiing, bicycling, concerts, festivals, dogs, cats, and above all, raising and parenting her children, each of whom are excellent human beings.

Maria is survived by her father Vladimir of Grinnell; her mother Tatiana of Minsk, Belarus; son Ivan of Colorado; daughters Sophia and Anastasia of Colorado; daughter Alexandria of Grinnell; and former husbands Dmitry of Colorado and Robert of Grinnell.