



Ann Azari

June 20, 1930 - September 16, 2009

Lifelong civic leader and former Fort Collins mayor Ann Azari, died Sept 16 In Fort Collins. Public memorial services will held at the Fort Collins Senior Center at 4 p.m. Monday, Oct. 5. Harriet Ann Coates was born to Spencer and Grace Coates June 20, 1930, in Long Beach, Calif. She married Paul (Parviz) Azari July 21, 1955, in Berkeley, Calif. where she earned a degree in History, from the University of California at Berkeley. The couple and their five children moved to Fort Collins in 1963 when Paul accepted a position at Colorado State University. Azari served three terms as Fort Collins mayor from 1993-1999. She first was elected to the city council in 1989, serving three years as mayor pro tem. During her tenure she was active nationally as chair of the U.S. Department of Commerce Census 2000 Advisory Committee and co-chair of the U.S. Conference of Mayors Census Task Force. She also served on the National League of Cities Advisory Council. She owned and operated a downtown imports store Caspian Ltd. before joining the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment from 1983 to 1987. In that capacity she served several positions including associate director of the Governor's Job Training Office, Director of Field Operations, and Director of Information Resources. Azari served on the executive board of the Colorado Municipal League and on the boards of member on the Downtown Development Authority, the Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce, the League of Women Voters of Larimer County, the Platte River Power Authority and Girl Scouts Council. Survivors include husband, Paul; daughters Nina, Katherine (Dan MacArthur), Victoria

Loran (Tom); sons Aaron (Anita) and Doran (Kathy); Grandchildren David, Abby, Alyssa, Anthony, Madeline and Ellen. She will be remembered for her love of family life, her sense of humor, intelligence and commitment to bettering her community. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Catholic Charities, 460 Linden Center Drive, Fort Collins, 80524.

Tribute Wall



“ *Ann Azari*

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



“ *Ann has been and will always be a source of inspiration for me and all others who have known her. She wanted to bring out the best in all around her, never worrying that she might be outshone. Her goal was to leave things better than they were, whether that was her community or her family. I will remember her infectious sense of humor, her bright eyes, and warm heart. Love to you all.*

Susan Mullen - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ann was warm, cheerful, funny, and always welcomed me into her family. Our love to all of you.*

Sarah Cunard Chaney - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *We have wonderful memories of getting together with Ann and the entire Azari family for our annual holiday potlucks over the past several decades.
We will miss you Ann but cherish the friendship we have with the Azari children.*

Caroline Tu Farley - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DK

“ Dr Azari and family,

I am so very sorry to hear of Ann's passing. Having recently lost a family member of my own, I can truly say "I understand what you are going through." I know your strong family ties and your treasured memories of Ann will carry you through the days ahead. Peace be with you all. DeAnn

DeAnn Keith - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

AM

“ *It will never matter how much wealth one accumulates during a lifetime. What matters is the lives one touches along the way. Ann touched many lives, in many ways - all positive. It's been over 30 years since I worked with her through the Mountain Prairie Girl Scout Council. I still think of her and value the difference she made in the lives of girls and other volunteers. She had a vision bigger than most people can imagine and she worked to accomplish it. She will be missed and she will be remembered.*

Ann (Tarver) Mangelsen - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JV

“ *" A Mother holds her child's hand for a little while, and their hearts forever."*

My sincere condolences and prayers for you in this time. My good fortune in knowing Ann's successful and outstanding children is a testament to her gifts as a loving and dedicated parent.

God's blessings and comfort to you.

Jim Vaughn - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KT

“ *Ann Azari was a great woman who was dedicated to her friends and her community. It was a privilege to have known her.*

Kacy Thompson - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KS

“ *I remember being in the Azari's home in the '60's teaching kids about biology and geology and how warm it was with her presence. I remember all their children played instruments. It was a wonderful view into an international family for a naive small-town girl.*

kathleen stewart - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *I echo the tributes to Ann, who had a great civic spirit. She helped us to form a more accepting community and to take advantage of cultural and international diversity at the same time that we faced the normal basic problems of running a town. Thank you Ann.*

Neil Grigg

September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

KQ

“ *Life is eternal, and love is immortal,
and death is only a horizon;
and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight.*
~Rossiter Worthington Raymond

When I was a teenager, in Ft. Collins in the 70's, I had saved my babysitting money to purchase an item from the Caspian. Ann seemed pleased that I had planned and worked to buy something from her store. She was very kind to me when I was young and I thought she was the type of lady I would like to grow up to be. She was a bright light.

Victoria and family our thoughts are with you.

Kerry Queen - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

ER

“ *Ann will be remembered as a giving person, with family first, friends next and community always and little for herself. Her husband Dr. Paul, and children are testimony to her successes in life. We have lost a smiling pillar of our city and a friend to us all. God will certainly know of her role on earth as a disciple of his love.*

Ed & Susie Robert - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

RL

“ *Our Condolence to Paul and the Azari Family. Ann invited us into her family and we have received friendship and love. We are for ever thankful.*

Reiner, Luise and Maximilian Lomb - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

TM

“ *There comes a person along once in a lifetime that can see the needs of others and Ann was one of those people. She was intelligent, humorous, kindly and creative. I pray that her friends and family remember those enduring traits and follow in those footsteps. Love you Ann, be happy in your beautiful place.*

Timothy Michael Mead - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ *Ann was a lady and a scholar. She was a true leader and loved justice, dispensed mercy and walked humbly with her God. She will be missed*

September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ *To the Family of Ann Azari,*

You have my deepest sympathy. Ann was a wonderful person to everyone; and, she will be deeply missed.

My prayers are with you in time sad time.

Joan Duchene - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

VF

“ *Ann was a very special lady and it was a privilege to have known her.*

Virginia Febinger - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BF

“ Victoria,
From my early days in Fort Collins, your Mom sort of represented Fort Collins to me. She really cared about the city, and people in it. She was sincere and genuine, when I met her in Jax, even to a young married guy living in duplex, new to town. Your acquaintance, music lesson and Froodle friend, Bill Greenlee

Sorry for your loss, thank you for the violin lessons and being such a great person, Riley Greenlee

Bill, Riley Greenlee and Family - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MA

“ To Azari Family,
We wish to express out deepest and sincere condolence. I will truely miss Ann's laughter on Sunday mornings, while you all would be enjoying your tea or coffee in your gazabo. I would see her tenderly pick one of the beautiful roses in your yard and knew she new how to enjoy life. God be with the family. Jack and Irene

Mason's - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JM

“ Dear Azari Family....
*You are all in our Thoughts and Prayers at this time of sorrow....
With sympathy, The Michalka Family*

Jim and Eunice Michalka - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

CF

“ *I was so sorry to hear about your mother. Please accept my condolences.*

Cathy Ferguson - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

BG

“ A special memory I have of Ann is when she, as mayor of Fort Collins, came to the CSU President's Reception for International Students, students who had just arrived from their countries to study at our university. After the President welcomed them, Ann, representing the city, extended the city's welcome to them and helped them realize that this new home of theirs would be a friendly, welcoming place. Many students later told me how much it meant to them to have the Mayor of the city give them her personal and the city's greetings. What a fine representative she was.

Jean S. Griswold

Bill and Jean Griswold - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

DC

“ Condolences and sincere best wishes to the Azari family at this time of loss.

*"Bin ich müde vom Studieren,
Wann der Mond tritt sanft herfür,
Pflieg ich dann zu musizieren
Vor der Allerschönsten Thür." --
J. v. Eichendorff*

David Caldwell - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

FF

“ Fred and I wanted to express our sincere sympathies to all of Ann's family. What a gracious and fine lady Ann was and what a legacy of life celebration she lived. We will always see her little smile with that twinkle in her eyes.

*Most sincerely,
Fred and Leslie Frantz*

fred and Leslie Frantz - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

MC

“ Ann was in charge of the "Building Your Own Theology" class at church when Roy Jones was on sabbatical. I was fortunate to take the class. Ann had a wealth of religious experiences to help guide us to build our own answers to the major religious questions. Ann helped me clarify my religious beliefs through the exercises such as a "Spiritual Autobiography." Because of her class, I was able to join the Foothills Unitarian Church without any question.

We worked together on a committee to create the Poudre School District 2000 Bond and Mill Levy that passed resoundingly. Ann particularly stressed how PSD could work together with the community and other organizations to serve the same needs.

Ann will be missed in the church, school district, and community.

Margie Caswell - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

GC

“ I never met Ann but I heard her name as soon as I became a staff member of Girl Scouts-Mountain Prairie Council in 1998. It was clear that she had made a significant impact on our organization. Our deepest sympathies.

Girl Scouts of Colorado - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM

VL

“ To all of Ann's friends and colleagues who have graciously shared your appreciation of Ann's life and contributions, her family says thank you.

A leader is only as great as the community of people who are willing to listen and to believe. Fort Collins is a great community, not only because of the leadership, but because of the people who live and work here and keep the vision of our town alive and position.

Victoria (Azari) Loran

Victoria Loran - September 16, 2009 at 12:00 AM