



Anna Rohrbacker

July 10, 2024

Anna Ruth Rohrbacker, 71 of Fort Collins, CO died at her home on July 10, 2024 after a year and a half long fight with ALS.

Anna Ruth Melching was born August 19, 1952, the oldest of six children of Robert and Ruth Melching. She grew up in Levering, Michigan on a small family farm where close family ties and a solid work ethic were instilled in her.

She graduated from Pellston High School in 1970 where she played the trombone in the school band and worked as a “Candy Striper” at the local hospital in Petoskey. After High School she attended North Central Michigan College for two years and decided to move on from Michigan. She was adventurous and brave and a bit of a risk taker, so she struck out on her own and moved to Colorado. In Colorado, she attended and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado Teaching College.

She moved to Fort Collins and took a job with Colorado State University, where she spent most of her career in Parking Management. It was at CSU where she met Russell. They soon married and for the past 46 years, enjoyed their lives together in Fort Collins.

She was a risk taker and a “tough girl”, but gentile, compassionate and thoughtful and later in life, became faithful. Anna drove by Holy Family Church

one night and decided "that's my church. That's where I'm going" and that's how she started. She joined Holy Family Catholic Parish in Ft. Collins and became an Oblate to the Abbey of St. Walburga in Virginia Dale, CO. As her faith grew, she began sharing and teaching the faith and Catechism to others.

Anna is survived by her husband, Russ; sisters, Mary Lou Cooper, Leslie Melching, both of Petoskey, MI, Betty Emmons of Brutus, MI; brothers, Bill Melching of Central Lake, MI and Rob Melching of Levering, MI; and her furry children, Princess and Mac.

A Rosary service will be held at 9:30 AM Tuesday, July 16th, followed by a Memorial Mass at 10:00 AM at Holy Family Catholic Church, 326 North Whitcomb St., Fort Collins, CO 80521. Interment will follow at Grandview Cemetery, in Fort Collins.

Her family requests that, in lieu of flowers, any contributions please be made to Holy Family Catholic Church in Anna's memory.

Cemetery Details

Grandview Cemetery

1900 West Mountain Avenue
Fort Collins, CO 80521
<http://www.fcgov.com/parks/grandview.php>

Previous Events

Rosary

JUL 16. 9:30 AM (MT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
326 North Whitcomb Street
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Memorial Mass

JUL 16. 10:00 AM (MT)

Holy Family Catholic Church
326 North Whitcomb Street
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Tribute Wall

DG

“ I knew Anna as a devoted oblate of the Benedictine Abbey of St. Walburga. She was faithful in attendance and open to the teaching, the prayers, and the fellowship. Rest in peace, dear Anna. Russ, may you find comfort in your memories of Anna.

Dina Strong Grimmert - July 21, 2024 at 09:55 AM

DG

We just heard about Anna's passing on The Pirate radio station this morning! We knew Anna through her Godmother, Linda Colburn, another lovely Third Order Benedictine. It was always a pleasure running into Anna at Holy Family Church or other Catholic gatherings. Our prayers are with Russ and everyone Anna ever prayed for. Dennis and Noni Gallegos

Dennis and Noni Gallegos - July 23, 2024 at 06:17 PM

CA

“ I always looked forward to seeing Anna when she checked in for her class at the Senior Center. We would "chat" via writing notes about Princess and Mac and my own recent rescue pup, Otis. Anna always asked how my family was doing, and even as she struggled with set backs, she wrote to me, "God is good." I kept that note. I miss seeing her and I am so very glad to have known her. My heart aches for Russ and her family.

Christine A - July 17, 2024 at 02:47 PM

KB

“ We have known Anna and Russell for many years. We met them while we were volunteering at the Fort Collins Senior Center Meal Program. We always looked forward to seeing them most every week. Anna was a kind, thoughtful person. We miss her.

Kathy & James Bowers - July 15, 2024 at 10:25 PM

JC

“ I knew Anna from our water aerobics class at the Senior Center. She was determined to attend class as long as she could, and when she couldn't, she sat in the hot tub during class. When no longer able to immerse, she came to the Center and read in the library during class. We could visit her in the library after class, and I did until just before she stopped coming. She was a model of determination for all of us, and I was inspired to fight my petty difficulties to maximize my enjoyment of my life.
Thank You, Anna.

Jim Chudd - July 15, 2024 at 08:04 PM

MS

“ The Anna I knew was always gracious. I knew her only the last part of her life--the ALS part. She had a gentle touch when dealing with people, consistently showed gratitude, and always showed a spunk--that I see as courage in the face of her relentless disease. For me, her memory is a blessing.

Marna Shillman - July 14, 2024 at 12:22 PM

LE

“ 1 file added to the album Anna



Leslie - July 12, 2024 at 03:48 PM