



Kathleen Ivy

October 17, 2021

Kathleen Ann Ivy passed away on October 17, 2021 after a ~3 year battle with metastatic melanoma. Born on Sept 8, 1955 in Alhambra, CA to parents David Higen and Mary Wise/Higen/Weiss. They moved to Colorado when she was 5, but Kathleen always spoke very fondly of her years in California. By the time Kathleen was 9, her brother Kenneth was born, and their parents had divorced. Mary's second husband Charles Weiss eventually adopted both children and they lived in Colorado Springs, running a glass shop. Their neighbor Fran Burke met Kathleen as a young teenager, and became a mentor and lifelong family of choice. Kathleen would openly say Fran saved her life more than once with deep conversations, long walks, emotional support, and a good cup of tea. Kathleen and Kenneth also had/have two younger ½ brothers (Jim and Micheal), from their father David's second marriage. Kathleen went on to college at UNC in Greeley, where she met and married Gerald Gates (1975), and had Holly and Laura. Despite their best efforts, that marriage ended in '82. Kathleen went on to complete her BA and MA in English, and her teaching degree through Project Promise at CSU in Fort Collins, while continuing to work fulltime. During these years Kathleen was married to Saleh Soliman ('89). Followed by Billy Althoff ('98).

With each relationship Kathleen did her best to be a good partner to her husband, and a loving mother for Holly and Laura. With her children and grandchildren she would read stories, sing songs, dance around the kitchen,

take trips to museums, art shows, parks, eat cookie dough, and remind us to enjoy the innocent playfulness of childhood no matter how old we are. One of the favorite holidays for Kathleen with Holly and Laura was Halloween. Hours were spent on dressing up and staying out late trick or treating. Kathleen did her very best to always put her children's wellbeing first. Kathleen was very proud that both her daughters pursued higher education, motherhood, and shared her values of kindness, resilience, self-reflection, family, helping others, humor, and continued intellectual and spiritual growth...

Over the years Kathleen accepted many different jobs to try to make ends meet, and always worked to learn from her experiences and improve herself. Throughout her schooling Kathleen struggled with learning disabilities including ADD, dyslexia, visual processing disorder, and increasing hearing loss. She used the difficult experiences of her life to inspire compassion and change for the better. She practiced pleasant, persistence, honest reflection, a strong Christian faith, and the academic curiosity to always consider new information. She would fiercely defend other's rights, while she privately struggled to defend her own, personally and professionally. Kathleen worked at CSU for nearly 30 years for students with disabilities with tenacity and grace. In the moments we could tear her away from that work, she also enjoyed family and friends, reading extensively, doll collecting, her many pets, traveling, camping (especially in these last few years with John in their new camper as they shared a love of nature and a wonderful sense of humor), painting, gardening, writing, dancing (even while seated if necessary)... She felt her true calling was helping others, and she exhausted herself in service of that cause.

Kathleen was preceded in her passing by her parents, and is survived by her devoted spouse John Moore (2016), children Holly Gates and Laura Benson, Brian and JR Moore, brother Kenneth Weiss and his family in Alaska, grandchildren, and numerous extended family and friends. She will be missed

by her friends, family, students, and colleagues.

Kathleen donated her body to further cancer research. At Kathleen's request, a memorial tree planting ceremony is scheduled on the CSU campus for June 10, 2022, and will be a celebration of Kathleen's life with an open invitation to all who wish to join us. The family will also have a smaller private ceremony in Colorado Springs planting additional trees.

Best wishes and blessings, from our family to yours.

****MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING CEREMONY UPDATE****

We invite family, friends, students, and colleagues to gather with us as we celebrate the life and love of Kathleen Ann Ivy.

Memorial: Tree Planting Ceremony, Friday, June 10th, 2022 at 11:00 am. CSU Campus, on The Oval, outside the SE corner of the Tilt building (formerly the Music building.)

- The memorial bench will be added later in the summer due to supply chain issues beyond our control.

Logistics:

Please dress comfortably, and bring a folding chair if you can not comfortably stand for ~30 min., or sit on the grass. (Much like a summer concert) Hats, sunscreen, tissues, and reusable water bottles are encouraged.

Bathrooms and water fountains will be available in the Tilt building.

Parking near campus is regulated, though they will be in the summer session -

which means lighter traffic. Please follow all parking guidelines as posted. We do not have a designated parking area for this event. https://pts.colostate.edu/contact_us/maps-3/

Thank you to all who have donated to the Kathleen Ivy Trust Memorial Tree Fund in lieu of flowers to honor Kathleen's memory and final wishes. (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-kathleen-ivy-memorial-trees-fund>) Any amount received exceeding the initial goal will go to planting additional trees... to renew the black forest near Colorado Springs after the 2013 fire, as promised.

If you prefer an alternative, Kathleen also cherished the many ways animals improve our lives and often embody the best in us with loyalty and love. She regularly donated to the ASPCA, and making a donation in her honor would also be a lovely way to celebrate her memory.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions:
Holly 970-402-1212, holly.a.gates@gmail.com

If you wish to send cards rather than posting on the memorial sites: (<https://www.goesfuneralcare.com/obituaries/Kathleen-Ivy/#!/TributeWall>), (<https://www.gofundme.com/f/the-kathleen-ivy-memorial-trees-fund>), or sending email, you can send those to:

John Moore and Family
1014 Berwick Ct.
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Previous Events

Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony & Celebration

JUN **10**. 11:00 AM.

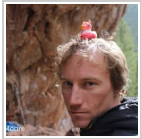
CSU Campus
Fort Collins, CO

Tribute Wall



“ Kathleen Ivy

October 25, 2022 at 06:14 PM



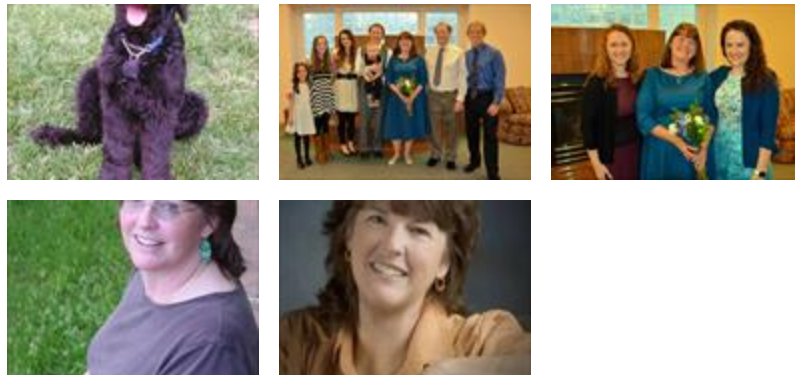
“ This is the program for Kathleen's tree planting memorial on Friday, June 10th, 2022.



Brian Moore - June 10, 2022 at 11:34 AM



“ 5 files added to the album Memories Album



Holly Gates - June 10, 2022 at 12:03 AM

NM

“ I may have met Kathy sooner, but the earliest visual I have is when Holly was about 2, and her Dad, Gerald and his band were playing up at a beautiful Christian Science youth ranch near Buena Vista. Kathy had Holly in her arms and was dancing with her, spinning and moving to the music as Holly giggled. How could I have guessed that when they were expecting their 2nd child, I would be invited to pray with them for the time before, during and after Laura’s arrival! I was honored shortly after she arrived to be asked if I’d be her “Fairy God-mother”. I couldn’t say YES! fast enough.

Although I moved from Colorado when the girls were still young, I loved being able to visit them from time to time as they grew up, each time getting closer to Kathy. We had many heartwarming discussions about our faith, and our love for her girls. Years later, Laura, Kathy and John, came to San Francisco where I was living, for a vacation. How we enjoyed hiking in John Muir Woods, and visiting the Golden Gate Bridge.

I have loved getting to know Laura and Holly and their children, but best of all are the conversations I have had over many years with Kathy regarding her love and happiness as her daughters grew into beautiful, successful and talented women, mothers and citizens.

We also share a love of animals, and I treasure an embossed piece she did of an Orca whale. I believe Kathy’s dedication to her family, students, dogs, and growing in her trust in God are gifts that will not end with her passing.

I’m thankful for John and the love he brought into her life, and that she persevered in acquiring the education needed to share so richly with her students. Seeing the artwork she helped many create was a moving experience to me.

I’m delighted a bench to rest on and a tree to grow onward are the ways chosen to celebrate this remarkable woman, Kathleen Ivy.

*Lovingly,
Nancy Martin*

Nancy Martin - June 09, 2022 at 11:58 PM

AH

“ Dear Kathleen,

My heart is with you and your family as you approach your transition. I wish peace and comfort for you all.

I am happy to offer a snapshot of all the beautiful work you accomplished at CSU and most importantly all of the lives of students you touched.

Over your long career at CSU working as the Assistant Director of Resources for Disabled Students, you worked with literally hundreds of students seeking academic success. You understood at the deepest levels the extra challenges of working with a disability. These students felt your warmth, support and troubleshooting, and tenacious advocacy on their behalf. You have so much to be proud of with multiple generations of students accomplishing degrees and finding their personal potential.

You knew everyone at the University that could help clear the paths for students. I remember many phone calls where you wanted to tell me about a student and have me help figure out how things could work more smoothly.

Your kindness and love for these students made us all feel like a team.

A life well lived is marked with the difference you made for students. Thanks so much Kathleen for all the gifts you shared and the lives touched.

You are a hero.

Love,

Anne Hudgens

(former Dean of Students, Executive Director CSU Health Network)

Anne Hudgens - June 09, 2022 at 03:54 PM



“ Update!

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1014 Berwick Ct.
Fort Collins, CO 80524*

Best wishes and blessings, from our family to yours.

Holly Gates - April 28, 2022 at 11:27 PM

MF

“*Kathleen was a tremendous resource for me, and a tireless advocate for students. I am grateful to have worked with her, she taught me a great deal about students with disabilities.*”

Melinda Frye - November 21, 2021 at 11:13 PM

LM

“*Kathleen was an integral part of the Resources for Disabled Students office for years. I have had many, many conversations with her over the years about students who were challenged by learning disorders and other difficulties, and I can truly say that she is the best advocate that a student could ever have.
I am so sorry that she has passed on, but I want to sincerely compliment her on a life well lived. She was the person that everyone should encounter when the chips are down.*”

Lisa McCann - November 15, 2021 at 06:25 PM