



Jane Parsons

April 10, 1938 - January 5, 2019

Jane Steig Parsons passed away peacefully on January 5, 2019 with both of her children by her side. She will be remembered as a faithful, loving friend, mother, wife, daughter, grandmother, artist, life-long learner, pro civil rights activist, and supporter of diversity. Jane received her Doctorate in Educational Psychology at Stanford University. She found her passion in photography in the early 1970s and worked as a professional photographer under the name of Prints Charming Photography for many years. She was also passionate about creating art through both media and words. Her photographs, artwork, poetry, and vignettes have all been published and exhibited over several decades. She loved playing and listening to music and was a proud member of Sigma Alpha Iota.

Jane is survived by her daughter, Kali Parsons (husband David), son, Vince Parsons (wife Ann), and four grandchildren, Ben and Nic (Kali), and Emma and Nathan (Vince).

In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to the Austin Story Circle in Jane's name. <http://www.storycircle.org/frmdonate.shtml>
(Donate to the "Annual Fund" and then add a note in the box provided, "In memory of Jane Parsons.")

Tribute Wall



“ *Jane Parsons*

October 05, 2023 at 10:58 AM



“ *Jane Parsons*

October 04, 2023 at 06:25 PM



“ *Jane Parsons*

September 26, 2023 at 10:57 PM

GN

“ In 1972, Jane and I began our long friendship when we discovered at our academic workplace that we were both in the early stages of pregnancy. During those nine months, our interactions became more frequent and personal. Eventually, the babies—Vincent Parsons and Margot Brown--were born, 6 weeks apart. Continuing with kiddie play dates and mothers’ morning coffees, the friendship deepened and ultimately endured for 47 years!

I came to appreciate the many facets (and quirks) of Jane, both private and public. She was a cheerful, smiling, upbeat person. She was warm and giving and always well-meaning. Unceasingly creative, she could have been called writer, poet, sculptor, photographer, artist. To me, she was a present-day, multi-dimensional, renaissance woman.

Cherished images of my husband Ed and me have honored our coffee table for 30 years in testimony to Jane’s photographic talent. Other treasured photos capture the essence of early, joyful moments in the lives of Margot and Vincent, conveying both context and emotion.

Jane caught the exuberance of the two children in razing cakes, pinatas, and gift wrap at birthday parties, their delight and gratification in transforming hard-boiled eggs into vividly dyed edibles at Easter, and their self-satisfaction in baking cookies and crafting decorations at Christmas and other holidays. She saw and snared the engagement of the two at the library for story-hour and book selection, their focus when attending classical events in music and dance, and their bliss when cuddling with their families, pets and each other.

When ruminating about what I had just written, my immediate inclination was to contact Jane for her opinion. It will be a challenge, indeed, to give up consultation with my old, dear friend. Gail Nelson

gail nelson - February 08, 2019 at 08:03 PM

NP

“ In 1975 I had a garage sale Jane attended. We discovered I was moving into her neighborhood. She gave her telephone number and, like Jane, offered to introduce me to other neighbors. I later called her and she arranged a get together with other women nearby. That was the beginning of these neighbor women gathering frequently for almost 20 years. They were the best neighbor friends I have ever had. Thank you, Jane!

Nelda Perry - January 16, 2019 at 07:55 PM

RL

“ Jane Parsons was a great and long lasting friend of mine. Even though I moved away from Austin in 1989 we have stayed in touch over the years. She came up to visit the NW several years ago. We visited some of her friends and a friend who raises turtles in the Portland area. Jane helped me with the Light Institute's production of Austin-Adelaide Day and she was a tireless volunteer. That is the same event that Mario Lorenz participated in dressed as a kangaroo. One weekend Jane and I drove to an artist event held by Warren Cullar near San Antonio. We got turned around going back to Austin and ended up 100 miles west on a highway to West Texas! She had a game of humming symphonies, and we vocalized and laughed all the way home! She was a wonderful poet, photographer and friend. I will miss her joyful countenance, humor, and love forever. I broke my wrist and canceled a trip when I would have seen her in Austin on October 4 of 2018. So sorry we were unable to connect before she passed. Much love to her children. In loving memory of a person who lived life to the full. Rev. Frances Arrowsmith Lorenz, Tacoma, WA

Rev. Frances Lorenz - January 16, 2019 at 05:57 PM

RS

“ *My husband knew Jane slightly in graduate school at Stanford. We were pleased to re-make her acquaintance in Austin contra dancing a number of years ago, and we admired her photography and her poetry. The best ever picture of Stan and me was taken by Jane on New Year's eve of 2011 at a dance. We also have a framed poem she wrote in 1997, "Hale-Bopp, a Transient Moment in Time," when comet Hale-Bopp passed by. She was a kind and talented person.*

R Swanson - January 16, 2019 at 05:45 PM