



Lanice M Gillard

January 6, 2021

Lanice Marie Gillard passed away peacefully on January 6 in the coastal town of Pismo Beach, CA. She had relocated to this beautiful area in 2020 to be near the sunshine, surf and sand. She was a beloved mother, daughter, sister and friend. Her devotion to nature, art and relationships never wavered, and she found peace near the CA coast, something she had dreamed of for some time.

Raised in northern California with her sisters Elizabeth and Monica, Lanice was the middle child who always brought everyone together. She was a born leader with a creative disposition. When she was a teenager, her devoted father Bryan moved Lanice and her sisters to Danville, CA and she was quick to make lifelong friendships as everyone was immediately taken by her bright and inclusive spirit.

Lanice graduated from San Ramon Valley High School in 1984, and then eventually moved to Santa Barbara, where she worked and went to college before heading north to Sacramento. She obtained a degree in Communications from Cal State Sacramento in 1989. Shortly thereafter, she headed north to Seattle, where she aptly gravitated to Alki Beach so she could be near the water. She met Greg Gillard while working in this eclectic beach town that she loved, and they married just a few years later at a gorgeous park overlooking the beautiful city of Seattle.

Lanice and Greg were blessed with the birth of their first son Callahan in 1996, and doubly blessed with their second son Jackson in 1998. She consistently shared that her greatest accomplishment in life was bringing her two beautiful boys into this world, and she was truly devoted to them and will be forevermore.

The young Gillard family enjoyed living in West Seattle and Edmonds, before carefully choosing Snoqualmie, WA as their ultimate location to raise their family. They loved the nature, forest and small town feel for 14 years while building many friendships. During that time, Lanice indulged in her love for cooking, gardening, volunteering at local schools and was the home that all friends, young, old and furry were always welcome. She loved music and to sing and karaoke was usually a given when you visited the Gillard home. She developed a love of photography and was inspired by the Snoqualmie Valley, full of so much natural beauty.

As her boys progressed through school, she was the ever-devoted PTA VP mom, spending countless hours teaching art in the classrooms. Simultaneously, she built incredible friendships, and she was extremely generous, not only with her time, yet also with her love of community. She worked tirelessly to help create the Tanner Jeans Memorial Foundation with her beloved friend Christen. Together they organized the annual Snoqualmie Bike Rodeo which advocates bicycle safety for children, and the legacy of this event lives on.

As Lanice's boys grew older, she had more time to devote to her art passion, and served on the board of Mount Si Artist Guild (MSAG) which lead to ultimately becoming the president of the Snoqualmie Art Commission. She also had the honor to work side by side with Dale Chihuly as his personal assistant, a role that she coveted. She had the ability to share her joy of art

with her passion for collecting unique treasures, which spread love and creativity to many.

She convinced her sister Monica and her family into moving to Snoqualmie from Danville, CA where they spent many years together raising their sons, all four close in age. While Lanice and Greg eventually decided to go their separate ways, their family bond remained strong and she shared that “Greg was her best friend.” Her sons meant everything to her and she was so grateful to spend time and share her love with them. She eventually moved back to CA and spent quality time with her older sister Liz and Fred the past year. She loved the warm coastal days and would like to be remembered when you look at the sun. Namaste.

Lanice is preceded in death by her mother, Bernice, and is survived by her father Bryan, her children Callahan and Jackson, best friend Greg, sisters Elizabeth (Fred) and Monica (Pat), nephews Sean, Tyler, and Trey and niece Bailey. Lanice lost her beloved dogs Phil and Dewey earlier this year, but no doubt she is running with them in heaven. She will be greatly missed and remembered by all.

A special thank you to her dear longtime friend Carrie.

If you would like to make a donation in her honor please donate to:

Mount Si Food Bank (North Bend), Mount Si Art Guild (Snoqualmie), Tanner Jeans Memorial Foundation (Snoqualmie), or Youth Care (Homeless minors in Seattle)

Please text or email any photos or stories to her sister Monica for a future memorial video and book. Please send stories and photos to

fablowmonica14@gmail.com or text to 209-607-6048 in addition to posting on
Reis Family Tribute Page.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN **26**. 1:30 PM (PT)

Snoqualmie Valley Alliance Church
36017 SE Fish Hatchery Rd
Fall City, WA 98024

Tribute Wall



“ *Reis Family Mortuary and Crematory created a Tribute Video in memory of Lanice M Gillard*



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - July 26, 2021 at 12:17 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Lanice M Gillard.*



June 26, 2021 at 03:44 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lanice M Gillard.*



June 25, 2021 at 11:51 AM

TG

“ I miss my dear friend, Lanice, so much. She was a free spirit and so very creative. I love how she inspired others to embrace the artist within. She taught me to live in the moment and recognize that beauty is all around us. I remember so vividly the day we met. “Hi, I’m Lanice...that’s Lance with an i.” We became instant friends. We got to know each other at such a fun time in our lives. Weddings, parties, softball games, vacations. So much fun! We even danced on stage with Elton John in Vegas. That was a night I’ll never forget. Over twenty years of friendship that we’re filled with laughter, fun, family time, golf, concerts, and most of all MUSIC. We sang our hearts out every time we were together. Our kids have a real appreciation for the classics! Lance, Nick, Natalie, and I will always cherish our Gillard/Goodpaster memories. We are family. 💕💕
Tricia

Tricia Goodpaster - June 25, 2021 at 12:53 AM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - June 24, 2021 at 01:33 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lanice M Gillard.*



June 23, 2021 at 11:09 AM



“ *I met Lanice when Jackson and Tanner were in daycare together. I will NEVER forget her kindness, loving heart and beautiful soul. Rest In Peace.*



Nicole Roussequ - June 21, 2021 at 01:15 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lanice M Gillard.*



June 20, 2021 at 12:57 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Lanice M Gillard.*



June 01, 2021 at 07:45 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - May 25, 2021 at 04:39 PM



“ There are a million and one stories I can tell of my friendship and times with Lanice. Although the majority of my memories are of the fun times, some are thought provoking and deep. The times I spent with Lanice always turned into a story later, and do I have some stories! For those of you reading this that know me or spent time with Lanice, all I have to say are the following and you will know what those stories are: The AC/DC that was not, jacked-up knee, "RED ALERT" "RED ALERT", jacked-up knee, sushi lunches, Jeannie, Black Hole Sun, Karaoke, Snoqualmie Casino, pink, jacked-up knee, red wine, Super Bowl parties, "Dewey still won't go outside", PGA "whispers", second-hand shops, Snoqualmie Yard Sale and "get that Laurie, you can paint it", gift closets (never knew what those were), "let me tell you the story about the brass elephant", TJMF, and the list could go on and on.

Lanice and I met and became close about five years into my time in Snoqualmie. I was always stricken by Lanice's huge heart, quest for fun, ability to be herself, and her creativity. Lanice was the type of person that could do anything she put her mind to--she was a master at multi-tasking, and I always told her she should have been a teacher. She had the ability to capture a child's imagine and the ability to foster it. She was creative, imaginative, clever, smart, and innovative. She loved art, and could turn a cheap, flea market find into a centerpiece; a small trinket into a heartfelt gift. She could take a picture of nothing, but could find a small hint of light, a hazy wisp, or a black dot on the photo and could weave a story about it. She found the good in everything and everyone; she was a giver and not a taker. Her heart was bigger than she was and, and her IQ was off the charts. She was an intellect and and a deep thinker and, like most intellects, knew more and thought more about things on an esoteric level. Lanice was also sensitive, although she never liked to show it. You were a lucky person if she did show it, as it really helped you gain perspective of the person Lanice was, the things she had overcome, and of the way Lanice approached life. She was a remarkable, talented person, and she was taken from us way too soon. However, the gift of having known Lanice will live on in so

many.

I will close with something Lanice told me many times over and that resonates with me now more than ever. As many of you know, Lanice had deep faith. Her picture to the left of me as I type speaks volumes. For those of you that loved Lanice, had the pleasure of meeting her, are sad or mad that she is gone, please know that the one thing Lanice never feared was death. She always believed death was a beautiful thing; that living with Jesus and that being surrounded by those that went before her was a miracle and something that no one should ever fear. I find some strange comfort in knowing this, as she had many conversations about this after my Mom passed, Betty passed, and others passed. Whenever I get mad, sad, or upset that she is gone, I take embrace this. I used to think Lanice knew her time here was short, although I never told her that. It was just something I always felt. I think that is the why she made the best of every situation, lived life out loud, and left an indelible mark on so many. She believed in legacies and she believed God had a plan for everyone. She believed in her children, in Gregg, and in all her friends. She would want us all to not be sad, but to do something everyday for someone else and to leave your mark on others. If this means bestowing upon others a love of art, poetry, reading, music, or sharing memories of the person Lanice was with others, than do that in memory of her. Lanice is not gone, but lives in all us. I will miss her terribly, but I will do my best to live up to her expectations and to be a better person for knowing her. She would want us all to do the same. God bless you, my friend--La La.

Laurie Gibbs - May 08, 2021 at 02:36 PM

MO

Laurie, that was beautiful and so spot on. Lanice used her challenging early life experiences to learn, grow and developed compassion to help others who were struggling. Especially innocent children and those who needed a voice.

Her love of God was so strong and her deep faith brought her much courage and strength. No fear was in Lanice, especially with death on earth. She knew there was so much more, yet she left her mark. Her spirit was huge and her presence would lite up a room. Now she is on the other side sharing her many gifts while looking after those she loves here on earth. 🙏 Monica

Monica - May 18, 2021 at 10:52 PM

KR

“ Dearest DeLa, I look back on it all now as an adult and I realize that you were fiercely devoted to anyone you loved. To those of us you loved, you told us the truth but you made it funny, you showered us with food and love and laughter, you always knew when someone needed you. You could laugh and cry in the same moment and it was all true. You lived an authentic life. Looking back, I see that every day was new for you - you didn't hold on to negative emotions, you just said your truth and moved on. That is such a powerful way to live. But it's tiring as well, I see now. I know your early struggles before moving to Danville helped shape who you are, the stories - you made them funny but now I see that they were anything but. That darkness gave you perspective. You moved from Pinole and lived in Diablo but nothing changed the core of you. You knew the fine line life gives and takes away. As I sit and write this, the memories are flooding in - so many stories from our high school days, your wedding, visiting you in Washington. I love reading what others have shared about you - memories made because of your sense of adventure and fearlessness. Of course I'll always cherish our most recent day in Mexico when we decided to take our own horse back riding trip and not the suggested cruise ship excursion. We lived to tell a very funny tale and made a crazy memory, one that also reminds me of who you are, I was braver that day because of your infectious self-confidence. I hope, in memory of you, I live a more connected life. One of caring and generosity, spontaneity and truth. But I also hope that I recognize when the strong ones are suffering. It's not easy to spot but I promise you, I will try. I love you Lanice.

Katy Hall Repp - April 20, 2021 at 01:35 PM



“ When I was five years old my family moved to Snoqualmie, we met the Gillards, and all of our lives were better because of it. My mother (Michelle/Shelly) and Lanice struck up a wonderful friendship through volunteering at my elementary school and soon were inseparable. As their friendship grew Lanice became a second mom to me and my brother, Eric. I spent many summer days in their house across from the "red park" crafting, teaching puppy Phill tricks, and sining "Lady Marmalade" into a spatula. Lanice was always so welcoming and energetic; everywhere she went felt like home. As I grew older she transitioned from a mother figure to a friend. She taught me the most efficient way to crack a crab claw, how to garden, and how to be 100% unapologetically myself. That is what I loved most about Lanice, her energy encouraged everyone around her to be their authentic selves because you knew that she would love you no matter what.

I can't help but smile thinking of Lanice, Phill, and Dewey running around the Marymoor Parks of heaven. Hopefully I will see her again some day so that we can share more memories together, and hopefully she will still be keeping a special jar of pickles in the fridge for me.

I love you Nicey!! You are missed beyond words. Thank you for being a part of my family's life.

Zoe Virta - March 17, 2021 at 04:16 PM

“ I met Lanice '81; we'd both just moved to Danville. Serendipitous that we both started our 10th grade 3 wks in and had the same dance class. Neither of us were “suited up” so we sat off to the side and talked. Then she said “My sister (Liz) works at Winchell's, wanna go get a free donut?!” And there began a 40 year friendship! A mile apart, we'd call each other and say “Meet 'cha on Canfield!” I was welcomed into Lanice's family...her father Brian loved his girls dearly and I think he was happy I was in their midst, he treated me well. Liz and Monica were equally as gracious, we had laughs at 410 Como Way, the haunted house, and Diablo!

We were both “new” but had each other to navigate the waters. Lanice's outgoing personality helped pave the way to meet our people. So many wonderful memories...I could go on, but think I just need to sum it up with a signature “Hallo!” And as our dear friend Andy recounted a fond memory in his tribute, I must reciprocate by sharing the story of when he was a “guest” in our Drama class. Lanice and I had Drama together, post-lunch. One day, we were eating with our buddy Andy, and determining what we would do for our “play” in 30 minutes, had to be a fairytale. We decided on Little Red Riding Hood, and Lanice talked Andy into joining our spoof as the axe man! We pulled off an “A” on that assignment, thanks to Lanice's creativity and ability to talk Andy into cutting class to join. Lanice could be very persuasive, this trait would serve her well in life.

As I left Danville for Pullman in the early morning of Aug '84, I remember my dad agreeing to stop at Lanice's house on our way out of town so we could hug goodbye! She sent me with goodies and heartfelt notes, so sweet, and as always, very generous. Lanice was the most generous person I've ever known. Generous with her time, her ideas, her food, her creativity, her money, and most of all, with her love.

Post college, we ended up in Seattle together! Lanice and her dear friend Cindy decided they wanted to be there...Lanice had a provincial love for Alki, she loved the beach so much. I was witness to her falling in love with Greg, and was honored to be in their wedding. (Lanice was the maid of honor in both of my weddings!)

During that time, Lanice was working downtown for a placement agency, and she actually got my brother a job at Amazon.com...he was employee #18, he is forever grateful for that opportunity. When I was looking for new work, she suggested I work with Greg, and he ended up being my boss for a couple of years! She and Greg had me move in with their little family after I endured a divorce. And I was honored to be in the room when their dear son Callahan was born, something engrained in my memory forever.

After I moved to Oregon, we carried on our friendship from afar... visits back and forth, memorable family vacations, and fun girls' trips with our beloved high school crew...Lanice, Katy, Julie, Lisa, Karen and Lori. Lanice always made us laugh, and again, was always the generous one of the bunch.

As I reflect back on all of the years we shared, I am grateful that she was with me for so many lifechanging events, and I'm so very sad that she can't be here for more. Monica shared so many wonderful things in the obituary about Lanice's talents...cooking, gardening, advocating, art, photography, singing...it's all so true! I will add to that and say that Lanice was truly one of a kind, that her love for people was contagious, that I think she is the reason I love my dog so much and can BBQ, that there are about a dozen songs that I hear that make me cry now...I am deeply saddened by her passing, and think about her dear Dad and sisters and sons all the time.

Thank you, dear Brian, for giving us Lanice. And Monica, Liz, Cal, Jack and Greg...so much love to you. I look forward to celebrating Lanice's life on June 26.

CARRIE SCHUTZ - March 15, 2021 at 11:03 PM



“ 6 files added to the album Memories Album



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - March 08, 2021 at 01:10 PM

KR

Carrie, you, Stephanie Varco and I went out and had these senior pictures taken by that dude! He was a creeper but maybe he wasn't because all of our pics turned out really well!

Katy Hall Repp - April 20, 2021 at 05:42 PM



“ Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Lanice M Gillard.



March 07, 2021 at 01:05 PM

AS

“ It is with tears in my eyes that I write this memory of my dear friend Lanice. She truly was a sister to me. From the day we first met in high school many years ago, and reunited again in college, she was such a good friend.

Lanice and I spoke just a couple weeks before she passed and were reminiscing about the good old days. Whether it be just the two of us, or with her pals Carrie (high school), Cindy and Paulette (college) and countless others, there were so many good times and even a few sad ones.

One of my fondest memories was when Lanice, Carrie, Gary and I went to Berkeley one Saturday night. We found ourselves at a bar called Ruthie's Inn. Little did we know it was punk night, which became apparent once the slam dancing began. Gary and I were doing our best to hold our own when all of a sudden the music stopped. We looked up on stage and Lanice and Carrie had convinced the DJ to give them the microphone. Everyone stopped to listen as our good friends began singing *Dust in the Wind* by Kansas. Gary and I decided to count our blessings and disappear from the slam dancing floor while we waited for them to finish their performance. It wouldn't surprise me if they were asked for their autographs afterward.

That memory is just one of so many that will never be forgotten. At the end of every recent phone call with Lance, including our last, she would always end with "I love you, Andy". To that I would always reply "I love you too", which I did and still do today.

Farewell my dear friend, Lanice. Until we meet again!

Andy

*I close my eyes
Only for a moment, and the moment's gone
All my dreams
Pass before my eyes, a curiosity*

*Dust in the wind
All they are is dust in the wind*

*Same old song
Just a drop of water in an endless sea
All we do
Crumbles to the ground, though we refuse to see*

*Dust in the wind
All we are is dust in the wind
Oh*

*Now, don't hang on
Nothin' lasts forever but the earth and sky
It slips away
And all your money won't another minute buy*

*Dust in the wind
All we are is dust in the wind
(All we are is dust in the wind)
Dust in the wind
(Everything is dust in the wind)
Everything is dust in the wind
The wind*

Andy Sacks - March 06, 2021 at 03:28 PM

KD

“ There was a time when I spent a lot of time in Snoqualmie... Lanice was so inviting and always enthusiastic to see me when I'd stop by. We had some great fun! That was about 10 years ago. Her art and business sense combination and high energy was contagious! I can hear her voice talking to those cute kids and dogs!!!!!! She worked for me for a week or two when she decided it wasn't for her but we sure had fun! I will miss her dearly. Prayers and thoughts to the whole extent of family and friends.

Kim Denney

kim denney - March 04, 2021 at 05:35 PM

MO

“ 1 file added to the album *The Gillard Family*



Monica - February 22, 2021 at 05:09 PM

MO

“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Monica - February 22, 2021 at 04:49 PM

BF

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Bryan Fabian - February 21, 2021 at 09:29 PM

BF

“ *Lanice was my beautiful second daughter and a big part of my life for so many years. She had a magnet and energetic spirit that attracted so many friends and people around her. I remember her high school and college graduation parties being full of so many friends. She was creative and a true leader. These qualities showed when she was very young. Our favorite song to sing together was Bye Bye Miss American Pie.*

My lovely little Niece, I will love you forever. I miss her so and that part of me will be gone forever.

Love, Dad

Bryan Fabian - February 21, 2021 at 08:35 PM



“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Reis Family Mortuary & Crematory - February 19, 2021 at 06:37 PM

MO

“ Being the younger sister of Lanice was an experience. When we were little she called all the shots. Many memories involve snow skiing in the Sierras as kids, going off trail and hitting jumps. I remember I took a hard fall and my ski broke in half. She dug my ski out of the snow and had me sit on the back of her skis all the way down the mountain. She was like a mother to me when we were little. The three of us girls and our two step brothers sang and created what we called "The Goof Club. We were going to be famous. One day Lanice, our step brother Tim and I found chunks of crystal rocks in the ground behind our house in Danville, CA. We were certain we were going to sell the rocks and become rich!

Two other times she rescued me from drowning in the ocean when no one else noticed. We road a Honda 150 mini bike as a one seater all over town, went to tennis camp, lifeguard training, redwood summer camp, Lake Wildwood and Shasta on many house boating trips where we inner tubed and water skied together. She taught me how to fish at Lake Shasta and she was a pro. In high school we had fun and she introduced me to all of her friends. I was shy when I was younger and she helped me to overcome my shyness.

As adults we were both pregnant with our two boys together. We made many memories with them during my annual visit to WA. Eventually she talked us into moving to Snoqualmie which was so beautiful. We went on tons of forest walks, many zoo trips, she showed me things like the Tulip Festival and we took ferry boat rides to distant islands. She reached out to the local football coach and connected my son Sean who earned the kicking position on the football team. Her son Cal played in the pep band during the many football games we attended at Mount Si High School.

Tyler and Jack played travel baseball together and we enjoyed many days watching them play together. Lanice knew everyone and was a social butterfly to say the least. She saw talents in people and helped them nurture their gifts. For example she bought my son

Tyler a beautiful guitar for his college graduation that he loves and plays often. She noticed his musical abilities very early on.

In Snoqualmie she introduced me to her artist friends and I helped her hang art in public places and set up displays at local festivals. She became the personal assistant to famous glass artist Dale Chihuly. She brought her family to his private studio where we watched his top glass blowers at work and met Dale who is such a sweet man. She loved working with him. She encouraged me to attend a 10 week course called the Citizens Academy with her in Snoqualmie. This lead to my environmental community work and eventually to my running for city council.

Lanice was an inspiration to many and a born leader and artist. She encouraged my singing abilities as well which lead to my joining multiple choirs. We sang together for as long as I can remember. We had a 45 record player in our room that we shared for many years growing up. Her first record was Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round that Old Oak Tree and mine was Everlasting Love. Liz had a great stereo in her room. The three of us would listen to the Beatles and Eagles and sing for hours on end memorizing lyrics to all their songs.

Liz was an amazing clarinet and saxophone player. Lanice played the flute and piccolo and I played clarinet. We would perform when family came over to visit. We loved to create neighborhood carnivals in our front yard and build haunted houses to share with the bored neighbor kids. We were also into gymnastics and roller skating. I'll never forget in the 7th grade, Lanice won the annual Turkey Trot race at school. She was so proud walking in the door from school with the 20lb turkey she was awarded around Thanksgiving.

Lanice touched many people with her energetic personality and tenacity. She definitely made her mark on this earth and will be surely missed. I love you sister, until we meet again.

Monica/Mook

Monica - February 19, 2021 at 06:28 PM