



Terri Fisher Connell

June 6, 1953 - July 16, 2020

Like the Dragonfly she so much adored, Terri Fisher Connell morphed into an adult creature of beauty, color and grace; but whose life was also, unfortunately, cut much too short. Those who had the pleasure of knowing Terri during this adult span also knew the beauty, wisdom, humor, creativity, and love that defined her.

Born in Merced on June 6, 1953 to Robert and Norma Fisher, Terri passed away on July 16, 2020, preceded in death by her father and beloved daughter, Nicole. She leaves behind the love of her life and husband of 17 years, Jim Connell,

her mother Norma Stephenson, her stepfather Ron Stephenson, her sister Becky

(Emery), her brothers Fred and Scott, and several nieces and nephews.

Whether engaged in her artwork, her readings, her social involvement, or through her positive and uplifting postings on social media, those who crossed her

path will remember Terri as someone with a quick wit, with a deep love of life and

for all whom she met, and with an awe-struck appreciation of travel and discovery.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate that donations be given in her name to Wilshire Hospice of San Luis Obispo or to Naomi's House in Fresno.

A

private graveside service is being planned.

Tribute Wall

TW

“ Oh my dear friend Terri I am lost for words. You are missed so much. I feel so blessed to have known you, loved you and been loved by you. I still remember the day you and Nicole stopped in to my salon and I gave her her first manicure as a very young girl. And how you showed me the fun of the fellowship. We did have a lot of laughs. As the years passed we were busy living our lives but whenever we saw each other we were like best friends. Rob and I have enjoyed the last several summers spending time with you and Jim. You taught me so much about love, light, positivity, and the joy of each day. We are so sad for you to leave us but every time I think you, I smile, knowing you are happy, joyous and free, reunited with your precious Nicole and your Dad. Thank you for YOU. I love you forever and always. ❤️
Terri Watts

Terri Watts - August 03, 2020 at 10:51 PM

 Karen
Cabreana

“ Duke & Chloe loved having Terri as a proxy grandma! She would read to them, give piggyback rides, and lots and lots of hugs and love.



Karen Cabreana - August 03, 2020 at 12:18 PM

KR

“ To My dear, dear friend----Terri was a sister friend in the bond of sharing our inner spiritual lives as well as our love of creativity. I will always remember our summer vacations spent with a creative project in mind and I have samples of a few to cherish. Mayo and I were so honored to stand in for your wedding day to Jim, who is a definite member of our family. I know you are in that special place with Nicole----I hope that both of you with angel wings will visit often. Love, love, love. Karlene

Karlene Kay Ryan - August 01, 2020 at 09:11 PM

KW

“ My heartfelt condolences to Jim and Terri’s wonderful family. She was amazingly strong, a true light in this world, a gift to all who knew her. I have a dragonfly that I bought when her beloved daughter Nicole passed in my garden - it is a true reminder of the gifts these to special people brought to my life. Life is short - surround yourself with people who are life giving - like Terri. ❤️

Kathryn Weakland - August 01, 2020 at 12:12 PM

KH

“ Jim and family, I am so sorry for your sorrow and loss. Terri was a wonderful human and a very dear friend. She was smart, funny, easy to be around and easy to talk to. She would listen wholeheartedly and was compassionate and kind. She made me laugh every day that we worked together and I am so thankful and blessed to have met her. My life was enriched by her friendship and there will be a hole that no one will fill. Please know you are being lifted up in prayer. Terri, you enjoy your baby girl and save us all a spot at the table. Can't wait to hear turkey sounds and my bd sung in opera. Love to you all!



kimberly hanson - August 01, 2020 at 09:37 AM

LH

“ Terri made these magnets for us girls in the office I have always kept it on the refrigerator. I cherished it before and now it means so much more to me. Love you forever Terri❤️



Linda Hood - July 31, 2020 at 12:07 PM

KW

Terri has some a wonderful spark about her, and to me, she lived mostly a wonderful life. She will be missed by so many of us!

Kris Wright - August 01, 2020 at 02:55 PM

SB

“ Terri, I am so lucky that our husbands brought us together on this earth. Our time spent together taught me much. Your wit, your patience, your determination, your bravery, your understanding of humans, are just a few. We will all take care of Jim for you. Until we meet again. XOXO Shawn Betts



Shawn Betts - July 30, 2020 at 11:53 AM

MC

“ My deepest condolences to Terri’s family. She was the strongest, kindest person you could ever meet. She always went the extra distance to help others. She loved her family and friends unconditionally and leaves so many feeling her loss. Terri was a remarkable woman who will be remembered for her grace, charity and generosity of spirit. With love, Marcia Coryell

Marcia Coryell - July 29, 2020 at 08:15 PM

JF

“ Terri, your smile, your calmness and most important, your kindness, I will remember. It's true, only the good die young...

Jodyne Forsmann - July 29, 2020 at 02:36 AM

PE

“ Terri was sweet, kind but, with enough spice to have an acerbic wit. She steadfastly stood by me when things, cancer and work, were going south and I'd like to think I (in a smaller way) did the same for her. She was a genuine beauty and will be missed by so many. “Say not in grief she is no more, but live in thankfulness that she was.” Jewish proverb.
To her family I wish you love and peace and know she was loved by many.

Peggy - July 28, 2020 at 11:15 PM

LH

“ My beautiful friend I will miss that beautiful smile your big heart. You appreciate that my grandchildren and I would clean and put flowers to Nicole now we will continue to put flowers to you and Nicole. I know your not there your in heaven I will feel your smile. Love you forever. Linda Hood

Linda Hood - July 28, 2020 at 08:45 PM

DG

“ To my wonderful beautiful friend...There are no words that can describe how much you meant to me. We traveled the journey without our kids for along time. We laughed and we cried and you did hilarious things when I least expected it. You were real. You were kind. You were genuine. You were amazing and witty and selfless. You endured this disease without asking anyone for anything. In your last days I was able to speak to you by phone and as I tried to hold back tears you said to me, "It's OK Debbie. I am OK. I don't feel anything. - How are you?" Still caring about others. I will never meet another person on this planet that has made such an impact on my life. I will always and forever do good and be kind to others as you always wanted people to do. I will not judge. I will always offer my hand to those who need it. To those who take it. Thank you for being my friend. I know you are with Nicole laughing and dancing. Say hi to my kid if you see him. I love you Terri and I will miss you forever.

To your family I send my love and heartfelt condolences and want you to know I am here if you need anything.

Blessings to you all in this time of sadness. May you all remember Terri with the smile she carried and the warmth she embraced us all with. Love Debbie Grafft



Debbie Grafft - July 28, 2020 at 07:21 PM

RE

“ Our love to each of Terri's family. Prayers of comfort for each of you
❤️

Ron and Gloria Emery - July 28, 2020 at 12:23 PM

“ Dear Terri,

Life brought us together when I met your beautiful daughter Nicole. When Nicole, myself and another friend became a trio of best friends, we decided to attend university together. Unfortunately, when Nicole's life was cut too short, we were then introduced to each other and very quickly, Terri, you became someone so close to my heart. Someone that was always there for me. Someone, that whenever I needed to talk, was always there with advice and warm arms.

Over the years, you have been through thick and thin with Jim. You have seen you up and downs together from living far apart in two cities until finally, you were living with the love of your life. You have been an shining example to me, demonstrated what love is. As a mother myself, the thought at losing my own daughter simply shatters my heart to pieces and I hold her tightly each time and pray that I may never outlive her. I always think of you, and when I think of what you went through, the strength that you mustered and the courage that you displayed. The heart of love that you had. You see, most people just tend to go through the rest of their lives bitterly after the loss of a child. But not you. No, you, Terri, like the brave warrior woman that you are, carried on. I know you had your days, but you really encouraged so many people.

You were and always will be surrounded by so much love. The love that we all have for you, and the love I'm seeing from others after your passing is overwhelming. To know that you were so deeply cherished, and so wonderfully loved is incredible. Your smile was so very infectious. I loved seeing you smile. I am sad that we did not see each other as much as we hoped, but I am blessed, that we were reunited again in Germany. I longed so much for you to meet Katie, your granddaughter and it finally happened.

To know that you are reunited with your father and Nicole again, is what sets my heart at peace. I know that they welcomed you with open arms. You looked so well after us, your friends, your family and the love of your life Jim. Now, it is our turn to look after you, and make sure that you are rested in peace. Jim will never be alone, he always has us, after all, he is family and will always be.

I will miss you, I already miss you so much, and I have always missed you, with the great distance between us but it meant everything to me that you always made time to talk and laugh with me.

Katie will grow up knowing who you are, and the importance of your presence in our lives. I will make sure of that.

I love you always.

Sarah - July 27, 2020 at 01:28 PM

MA

My dearest Terri. I'll never forget when I first met you when I started working at the DA's office. I kept hearing a turkey gobbling sound and then you came over and introduced yourself. Such a beautiful welcoming smile! You really helped me with my new-job jitters, made me feel part of the group. I always loved your wonderful and beautiful artwork and craftiness and superb sense of humor. At big luncheons when a speaker needed to get everyone's attention, we could count on one of your incredibly piercing whistles to call everyone to attention! You were always positive, loving and supportive, showing incredible grace during your devastating loss of Nicole. Barely a month ago you sent me a beautiful photo of horses running and bucking, telling me "You have to paint this!" Not one word about yourself or your illness, I had no idea. I will remember your radiant smile, happiness and kindness forever. Now you are strong and healthy once more and dancing with Nicole. Here's looking at you. ❤️🌻🌻🌻

Marjory Abeyta - July 28, 2020 at 11:17 PM



Aunt Norma, Jim, Becky. Fred and Scott and other family members. So sorry that Terri's life was cut short. She was a beautiful woman, inside and out and and she will be missed by everyone. I am grateful to know that she has been having a glorious reunion. May all who know you and love you be held in the Lord's arms and be comforted by your lack of earthly presence. We love you and hope for you to be comforted.

Diane Carter - July 28, 2020 at 11:51 PM

SP

My life has been made so much better by knowing you. There is not one thing i can say that has not already been said. I love you still and will remember with joy the last time we were together in my backyard with Janice, and Shar (with the proper social distancing). We laughed a lot and ate ginger cookies and ice cream. You even asked for a second bowl of ice cream.

I will remember that my grief is love that has no places to go.

Sharon Patick - July 30, 2020 at 01:42 PM

BA

Terri and Jim, we are simply the luckiest people in the world that you were brought into our lives. Because of you, we are enjoying our lives today. We loved every single minute that we spent with both of you. and you will be with us forever.

Bob Avedesian - July 31, 2020 at 11:52 PM