



Judith Dianne Duff-Leach

October 3, 1953 - May 5, 2015

Judith Dianne Duff-Leach, 61, a dedicated mother, passed away on May 5, 2015. Dianne was born in Albuquerque, NM on October 3, 1953. She grew up in central New Mexico in Albuquerque, a ranch near Cerrillos, and a farm south of Bernalillo, where her family raised Appaloosa, and later, Thoroughbred horses. She studied classical piano and, in 1971, made her debut at the Gran Baile de la Sinfonia de Albuquerque. Dianne was a graduate of Manzano High School and a student of Theology at the University of Albuquerque. Dianne was an accomplished and published writer, and was active with the Rio Grande Writer's Association and was the co-editor of the book, "A Spirit That Wants Me", an anthology of New Mexico stories and poetry. Dianne was an avid gardener, weaver, and music lover who dedicated her life to raising her children. She is survived by her son, Jeremy Duff-Leach and wife Delia; her daughter, Emily Duff-Leach; grandchildren, Christian, Evan, Dylan and Lillian; her brother, Ted Duff and wife Janet; niece, Rebecca; and nephew, Andrew. Dianne was preceded in death by her parents, Arthur L. Duff and Reba Duff; and her brother, Arthur "Sonny" Duff. A Memorial Service will be held at FRENCH - Wyoming on Saturday, May 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. with a reception following the service. In lieu of flowers, please make contributions in her name to the ASPCA.

FRENCH – Wyoming

7121 Wyoming Blvd. NE
(505) 823-9400

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY **9**. 6:00 PM (MT)

FRENCH Funerals - Cremations (Wyoming)

7121 Wyoming Blvd NE

Albuquerque, NM 87109

(505) 823-9400

<https://www.FrenchFunerals.com>

Tribute Wall



“ I found this obituary when I typed in Sonny Duff. Dianne was the one that sent me a card telling me of Sonny's death. I thought it was very sweet of her to take the time to break the news to me of his death. Sonny was a caring kind beautiful person and his mother was a very sweet person so I am sure Dianne Leach was very sweet too. She was too young to leave this earth. We need more people like her and I want to look up her book and find out about her on that level.

C. Dianne Clements

C Clements - June 24, 2015 at 04:32 PM



“ Dianne, you were the great love of my life. I learned of your death because I wanted to find you to let you know that the poem Zozobrina, which was about you and a moment in time we had together, is being published in a book. Because you were its muse, it is my strongest poem, so we led the book with it. You were the best writer I ever met and the best person to have entered my life. I am so grateful to have known and heart broken you are gone. Great love, always.

TG Dickson (Todd Dickson) - June 12, 2015 at 03:55 PM

HA

“ I happened to find Dianne's obituary while trying to see if her brothers obituary was online.
Heartbreaking to read and begin to process.
I knew her family and loved them all dearly. Dianne was the beautiful fairy princess that I was in awe of for years from afar.
Talented, interesting and glamorous.
Her room at her parents house full of horse ribbons and trophies inspired my love of horses and I even considered a pet skunk because of Kunky.
Her mother and father cherished their family, and gave their children the most abundant life any children could ever ask for. Through the years I frequently think of that time fondly.
Peace to Arthur, Reba, Sonny and Dianne.
Comfort to her children, grandchildren, family, friends, her brother Ted and all of her loved ones.

Hilda Pierson Adams - May 21, 2015 at 11:56 PM

AB

“ I first knew Dianne when we both attended Zia Elementary School. She was one of the prettiest girls in class. She had a love of horses and usually brought those lovely plastic horses to school....and she had a knack for sketching those beautiful animals. I lost track of Dianne until our paths crossed again at Manzano High School. Though we traveled in different social circles then, I knew somehow that she would accomplish great things in the years to come. I'm very sorry to learn of her passing and extend my sincere condolences to her family.

Amy (Komarek) Budge

Amy Budge - May 16, 2015 at 11:05 AM

KS

“ I think Diane was one of the loveliest people I remember from our class. She was creative and gentle and yet would speak about what she believed in. I am sorry for her family for your loss -- I'm sure you miss her everyday.

Sincerely,
Kris Sly-Linton

Kris Sly-Linton - May 16, 2015 at 12:25 AM

DN

“ Beautiful lady and wonderful soul. We kept in touch via email for a long time but she dropped out around the time of our 40th reunion and I hadn't heard from her since. Dianne, I loved you then and I guess I still love you now. Rest in peace.

Dana Netz

Dana Netz - May 15, 2015 at 05:29 PM

MC

“ Dianne was stunningly beautiful physically and spiritually. The world is diminished by her passing. My condolences to the family.

Michael Condon

Michael Condon - May 15, 2015 at 09:30 AM

NC

“ My condolences to all of Dianne's family. My first thought is ,I was so blessed to meet and be a part of Dianne's life. Working with her was an honor. The time we shared was such a great experience , she impacted my life in ways she will never know! I admired the strong beautiful lady she was. We spent many hours talking, sharing childhood memories. Topics on horses, movies, West Tx, the farm. Casino, Art , music , jokes I guess the 4 horses in the barn will not be solved, I never figured it out. And she was so knowledgeable I was fascinated. She made me feel like I was family. She was kind and caring, I appreciate the privilege of caring for her and the time we had! So glad our paths crossed! The beautiful memories I will cherish. I miss you and love you!



Nita Crawford - May 10, 2015 at 12:34 AM



“ Do you remember the black marble coffee table in the living room. it was perfectly round and heavy and unforgiving. I cant remember how many times it made me cry from hitting my chin or my tooth or my knee on it. I can't remember how many times we ate chines food around it and laughed watching movies.

or when we watched the full moon rise from the back pouch with binoculars and you just knew that it was one of those moments in life that so very important and that you just don't get that many of. of her subtle and ever present humor. her long graceful fingers, and how she was so careful and still, gently, a little wicked.

of the garden out back above the lawn and behind the fruit trees where she let me plant my first garden. which consisted of giant hole in the ground that kept growing until I hit a pipe and then spread seeds all over the place. I remember that it took off at first and she laughed and told me that maybe she should have planted hers like that. I think a week later mine stated to wilt and hers patiently grew and kept us in fresh corn and tomatoes all summer. of watching movies and making forts, of sitting with em on the back porch swing on summer evenings. of punching the punching bag with Jeremy in the garage until my knuckles bled.

the big red landcruzer that shelped us all to Texas and back and lets us sit on it in the garage and play ancient video games for hours cause the light was just right.

of the gentle way she would check on me. and make sure I was OK her hand on my shoulder when she thought that maybe I was not...

of two cookies everyday after dinner

of walking the walls between the houses with Em, even though she told us not to, and how she came and picked us up any way when we got stuck.

how embarrassed I was the first time she heard me use a cuss word.

I wish so very badly I could have made it. I'll come down later this summer with Luke so I can see you all and meet your children. I'm glad she's free now, but the world seems to be just a little smaller now that she is no longer in it like we are.

Tree Matt - May 09, 2015 at 11:23 AM

AC

“ *My dearest Dianne, Judy, remember? You would only let me use that name if no one was around. I loved you many many years ago and, truth be known, all the years since. We talked of college and the future together but life happens. Some of my happiest times were writing and editing our publication together. Probably your first and definitely my last. The most beautiful heart and soul I've ever known. So sorry we lost touch. We danced one song together in the summer of 1981 after not seeing each other for years. I think it was 2001 before my wife let it go. I've thought of you often over the years always with a peaceful heart just wondering how you are. I had one of those thoughts last Tuesday. The same peaceful heart. Rest well my sweet lady. We'll dance again. Love you.*

Allen Coleman - May 08, 2015 at 06:31 PM

AS

“ *Dianne was a very sweet lady and I am blessed to have known her. I will miss the movies and laughs we shared together. She had a smile that you can't forget. There are so many good memories I have of her.*

ashley - May 08, 2015 at 02:48 PM

TB

“ I had the wonderful opportunity to care for Dianne. When I first met Dianne, she had a special presence about her and a smile that lit up the room. She was an amazing, courageous, kind and beautiful person. She brought so much joy to my life, she was a godsend. I miss you so much Dianne! My thoughts and prayers go out to her children and family. Dianne, you will forever be in our hearts!



Tiffany Blea - May 08, 2015 at 01:34 PM

RL

“ Throughout her life, Dianne graced the world with so many powerful gifts--she was brilliant, creative, socially conscious, talented, and lovely. But the qualities that most touched my heart were her courage, her strength, and her fierce loyalty to those she loved. Dianne was the first person I ever called "best friend," and I now have tucked those words safely away so they will belong only to her forever.

Although life took the two of us in so many different directions, something inexplicable has always brought us back together throughout. I am so grateful that the universe saw fit to reconnect us again one final time in a most remarkable way.

See you in the moonlight, my beautiful best friend.

Rebecca Lowry - May 08, 2015 at 11:55 AM



“ We are all so sad to see her go, she was a wonderful, caring, and amazing woman. I am so grateful to have known her and to be with her close to the end. She still had so much beauty in her. We will forever miss you Dianne!



Monique Mills - May 08, 2015 at 10:07 AM

SB

“ Dianne lived in my neighborhood for several years and I first met her when our neighborhood was trying to start a neighborhood association. Those first months we met once a month, but because of various projects neighbors wanted done, Dianne and I worked together almost weekly. When it came to writing Dianne was very professional and the various polls , questionnaires ,etc that our neighborhood circulated were just what we needed. Her professionalism really got our association off to a good start. Despite her illness she always gave 100% to getting our association off the ground. I am talking about the Eldorado Heights Neighborhood association which is still strong today with a great newsletter "founded" by Dianne's guidance. Dianne was a sweet ,caring person and she will be missed. On behalf of the Board of directors of Eldorado Heights Neighborhood Association please accept our deepest condolences. Mrs. Sharon Busboom

Sharon Busboom - May 08, 2015 at 09:28 AM

JK

“ Dianne was my co-editor and dearest friend for many years. She helped me through some of the darkest times of my life--and shared some of the happiest ones. I will always remember her with love. Dianne's children were the light of her life--and her family meant more to her than anything. I send them all my deepest sympathy.

Jill Kiefer - May 08, 2015 at 07:55 AM

JC

“ *On behalf of the French Family of Companies, we express our deepest condolences.*

Joel Chavez - May 07, 2015 at 12:35 PM