



Barbara Ann MacDonald

February 28, 1955 - July 8, 2015

It is with great sadness that we share the loss of our beloved mother, grandmother, daughter, aunt and sister, Barbara Ann (Cowan) MacDonald. She blessed us with her life for 60 years and passed away on July 8, 2015 in Denton, TX surrounded by family. Barbara was born on February 28, 1955 in St. Louis, Missouri to Mr. Edward and Margaret Cowan, the first of four children. She was a resident of Lantana, TX and was employed as the Assistant Director of Financial Aid at The University of North Texas for over 25 years. Barbara is survived by her mother and stepfather Mrs. Margaret and Bruce Dean of Denton, TX; three children Mr. Erik MacDonald of Katy, TX, 33, Mr. Jason and Natalie MacDonald, 32, of Ft. Worth, TX, and Mrs. Heather and Jason Gahring, 29, of Flower Mound, TX; brothers Mr. John Cowan and Mr. David Cowan; and sister Mrs. Mary Kienholz. Barbara was blessed with three grandsons Liam Parker, 5, Henry Lee, 19 months, and Paxton Russel, 4 weeks. She is survived by ex-husband and dear friend Dr. Don N. MacDonald, Argyle, TX.

Barbara will be remembered by those that knew and loved her, for her strength, passion, and caring heart. She was a truly remarkable woman and will be missed dearly. Memorial Service will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at the University of North Texas Goolsby Chapel (1622 Maple Street, Denton, TX 76201) at 4PM officiated by Chaplain James Clinkscales. Parking will be available at the Highland Street Parking Garage (620 Central Ave, Denton, TX 76201).

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to the Ms. Barbara Ann MacDonald scholarship fund, Department of Finance, Insurance, Real Estate and Law, c/o Mrs. Michelle Bennet, 1155 Union Circle #305339, Denton, TX 76203.

Events

JUL **Memorial Service** 04:00PM

14

University of North Texas Goolsby Chapel
Denton, TX, US, 76201

Comments



“ I had the pleasure of working with Barbara for 10 years. She was a kind, caring person. We both liked Diet Cokes and to laugh. She was a great encourager and wonderful person. She will be missed.

Kris Jacobson - July 24, 2015 at 10:15 PM



“ I enjoyed Barbara as a friend and co-worker for nine years in Student Financial Aid and Scholarships (SFAS) at UNT. Barbara was a great resource for me since she worked in our office for 25 years. She kept such great records! We had opportunities to travel together with work and to get to know each other on a more personal level. She always shared updates about her family and pictures of her grand kids with me. How she LOVED each one of her family members. It is hard to believe Barbara is gone, but she will continue to live in my heart. Chrisana Black

Chrisana Black - July 14, 2015 at 02:05 PM



“ Barbara was someone I worked with, admired and just all around loved. We laughed and joked together, and she was a true mentor as I found my footing in the office. We also both loved gambling and Diet Cokes. She was authentic, and kind. She gave the best advice, and she was one of the strongest people I have ever known. When I questioned my parenting, she lifted me up. When I worried about work she always encouraged me, and pointed out my strengths.

I remember showing her how Twitter worked, and the amazement at the things she saw. She was just..the best.

I will miss you, Barbara.

PS-I am sorry I drank your Diet Cokes that day, and didn't tell you. I came to visit and confess, and you were sleeping. :)

Tiffany ONeal - July 14, 2015 at 01:14 PM



“ Barbara was a great friend and mentor. We worked together for several years and I remember a time when I accidentally called her "Mom." We both laughed but it was her caring and thoughtful nature that caused my Freudian slip. Barbara made this world a better place for her family, friends, and thousands of UNT students. She will truly be missed.

Ryan Walker - July 14, 2015 at 12:58 PM



“ Condolences to the family of Barbara MacDonald. She will truly be missed, but the memories that we have will live forever.

My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

La Christa Glenn - July 14, 2015 at 10:48 AM



“ Thinking of you, Mary, Barry and Kim, as you gather together with family and friends today in honor of Barb. Please know that our hearts and prayers are with you as you grieve the loss of one so dear.
Love and hugs,
Jean and Scott

Jean Cofield - July 14, 2015 at 08:24 AM



“ To Barbara's Family, please accept my heartfelt condolences for your loss. She was a valued co-worker and dear friend I had the privilege of working with for 12 years. When I think of strength and commitment and honesty, I think of Barbara. She always did what she thought was right, and supported those she cared about. Her family, though, was the most important thing. She cherished each of you, and was so thankful to have had the opportunity to be a daughter, sister, mother and grandmother.

My heart is heavy, and I miss my friend. I am thankful for the memories and the opportunities to be there through her battle. But most of all I am thankful to know that she is no longer suffering, and is at peace.

I will continue to keep you all in my thoughts and prayers!

Lisa Goodwin - July 14, 2015 at 06:56 AM



“ My sincerest condolences to the family! Y'all are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. I sympathize with what you're going through as I just went through the same with my mother a little over a month and a half ago. Take comfort knowing she is at peace and no longer in pain; and know you now you have an amazing guardian angel! Take care of each other.--Kristi Wolfe



Kristi - July 13, 2015 at 02:40 PM



“ Barbara was a great friend and helped me through a trying time in my personal life. I enjoyed the four years I got to work with her. She was always willing to help me with whatever I needed even if it meant pranking a co-worker. I owe her and Judy for teaching me how to play Texas Hold'em! I enjoyed our trip to the casino together and it brings a smile to me every time I think of our travel. She had a great laugh and would get a certain twinkle in her eye when she was being just a little mischievous, like the time we decorated Mike's truck in princess décor. It is why we got along so well. I miss my friend very much and wish her family all the best.

Kristina Randolph - July 13, 2015 at 10:31 AM



“ Barbara was the best kind of supervisor: she was extremely knowledgeable, supported those she worked with & always had the best interest of UNT students in mind.

She had such a wonderful smile and spirit - she will be missed dearly.

Katie Johnston - July 13, 2015 at 10:00 AM



“ Sincerest condolences to the family. I had the pleasure to work with Barbara for 20 years. She was my boss, my mentor, my confidante, and most of all my friend. You could always rely on Barbara to be at work, to assist you in a difficult situation or to just listen to you without judgement. She always had an open door no matter who you were or what it was about. I’m not sure I’ve known anyone else that knew as much as she did about everything. Barbara loved to talk about gardening, TV and most of all her family. If there were only one thing I could say about Barbara it is that she was a good mom. Barbara loved her children and family. In them her spirit will live on. I love you Barbara and miss you! You and your family will always be in my thoughts and heart.

Melissa Boyer

Melissa Boyer - July 12, 2015 at 06:23 PM



“ To the family of Barbara,
Our deepest condolences to the loss of your mother, grandmother, daughter, aunt and sister. At UNT Student Financial Aid and Scholarships (SFAS), we lost not only an extraordinary colleague but for many of us an extraordinary friend. I worked with Barbara for over 25 years. Her dedication to our office, university and students was commendable. Through her work she helped many students receive an education. She touched many lives, including my own. She was so smart and taught me so much with not only work but with life. We loved talking about our favorite TV shows (especially reality shows – Survivor), Sci-fi movies (yes the cheesiest ones!), and what we liked doing outside of work. But most of all, we talked about our children. She gave me lots of mom advice. She was very proud of you Erik, Jason and Heather and her grandkids.

I have many fond memories of Barbara that I will cherish forever. I was fortunate to travel with Barbara on many work trips. December 2013, we landed at DFW at the beginning of one of our worst winter storms. I had to drive us back to Denton in the snow, sleet and ice. I was fearful and didn’t think I could do it. As we drove by accidents, long lines of traffic, I panicked and kept saying I don’t think I can get us home. All along Barbara was encouraging me. “It’s ok, you can do this”, “You are doing great”, “You are getting us home safely”, etc. Her calmness not only eased my fears but pushed me to do my best. It was that positive, encouraging attitude she had in everything she did. We will miss you dearly Barbara. You are home at last.

Zelma DeLeon

Zelma DeLeon - July 12, 2015 at 09:27 AM



“ Melissa Boyer is following this tribute.

Melissa Boyer - July 11, 2015 at 10:46 PM



“ 8 files added to the album New Album Name



Melissa Boyer - July 11, 2015 at 10:38 PM



“ UNT Family

Melissa - July 11, 2015 at 10:54 PM