



Darlene Marie Crilley

February 6, 1943 - April 28, 2021

Darlene Marie Crilley 78, of Houston passed away on April 28th, after fighting a courageous battle with ALS. Darlene was born February 6th, 1943 in Brush, Colorado to Robert and Maxine Barnhouse. After spending her formative years on the family ranch, they all moved to Pierz, Minnesota. Upon graduating from Pierz Memorial High School in 1961, Darlene joined the US Navy and was honorably discharged in 1965. During her time of service, she earned an expert marksmanship metal.

In the 70's Darlene moved to Houston, Texas. And over the next 30 plus years; she was employed as a Staff Assistant in the Real Estate, Insurance, and Energy Industries. It was during this timeframe that Darlene supplemented her education by earning her Associates Degree from San Jacinto College (1990). She also served in the US Naval Reserve and was honorably discharged in 1991.

Darlene and Patrick were engaged on Christmas Day 1988. They were married December 12th, 2004 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Their favorite leisure activities included visiting different wine regions (i.e., CA, OR, and TX), tailgating at Indiana University football game where Patrick was an alumnus. Darlene was a long-standing member of the American Legion Post 100 (Lake Station, IN). Darlene loved decorating for the holidays. She was an avid reader (was on her third Kindle) including the Sunday comics. For many

years, Darlene attended Memorial Drive United Methodist Church. Her attendance was disrupted due to hurricane Harvey. A special thanks to dear friends Barb and Dave Coleman (Tomball, TX) who boarded them for many months while their home was repaired.

Darlene was preceded in death by both her parents, all three of her siblings, her beloved father-in-law Monte J Crilley, brother-in-law Frank Overturf. She is survived by her husband Patrick, her son Erik (Kimberly) Huetter, granddaughters Cheyenne, and Kelly Marie, mother-in-law Agnes Crilley, brother-in-law Terry (Joyce) Crilley, sister-in-law Cheryl Overturf, nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Her family wishes to send out a "Special Thanks" to those at the ALS Clinic at The Houston Methodist Hospital, and everyone at the Veterans Administration for "all" the help and support they provided to Darlene and Patrick.

No services are scheduled. Darlene's wish was that you do not mourn her passing but celebrate her life. This Memorial Day, please pour/order your favorite adult beverage and toast her!!! Family and friends are encouraged to send condolences by visiting www.dettlingfuneral.com.

Tribute Wall



“ *Darlene Marie Crilley*

October 08, 2023 at 10:52 AM



“ *Darlene Marie Crilley*

October 06, 2023 at 01:12 AM



“ *Darlene Marie Crilley*

October 05, 2023 at 09:45 AM



“ *Darlene Marie Crilley*

October 05, 2023 at 01:54 AM



“ *Sincere condolences to your family. I am so very sorry for your loss. May God provide the necessary peace and comfort to your family and friends during this difficult time. Please remember these words of encouragement from the Bible: “ Jesus plainly told her: “I am the resurrection and the life. He that exercises faith in me, even though he dies, will come to life.” —John 11:20-25.*

Ruby Bell - April 30, 2023 at 11:28 AM

MM

“ I think I only ever met Darlene in person once when my mom and Terry were married. She was so kind to me. I know my mom kept in touch with Darlene and shared what was going on with me and my family. Darlene kept up with all of her friends and family with monthly newsletters & she often shared pictures of my kids and the things we were doing. It was such an honor to me to be mentioned in her updates. She was a happy person and her connections with others was so important to her. Lighting a candle in her memory & lifting the family in prayer.



Melissa Murrell - May 11, 2021 at 07:31 AM

CO

“ 11 minutes ago
I'm so happy to have known Darlene she really did have the best hugs and the most beautiful smile the most glamorous person I've ever known!!! Her hugs were so good and long that I would smell white diamonds for days after. I Have so many fun times with her and my brother I will cherish them . To many to put here but she will be missed and I will always love her. Darlene will always have a place in my heart. Till we meet again sister..Love You Cheryl

Cheryl Overturf - May 09, 2021 at 11:23 PM

RP

“ You’ve never been hugged if you haven’t been hugged by Darlene. She gave the strongest, most sincere hugs anybody could give. She was a beautiful, strong woman. She will be missed as she has touched our lives with wonderful banter over drinks and sumptuous dinners.

The Penn family had the privilege of attending Darlene & Patrick’s wedding. Unbeknownst to Darlene we conspired with Patrick to crash the wedding. Our young daughter was the impromptu flower girl. It was a small but memorable wedding.

Darlene and I found a common interest in attending a Methodist Church. She spoke a lot about how she appreciated attending Memorial Drive Methodist Church. We bonded on faith.

We’ll miss you Darlene.

- Randy & Mina Penn

Randy Penn - May 07, 2021 at 09:14 AM

JC

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Joyce Crilley - May 04, 2021 at 05:33 PM

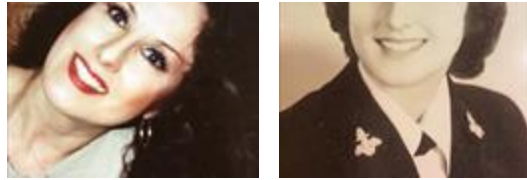
JC

“Darlene you will be truly missed, but I know you are no longer suffering and in a much better place now. I have so many fond memories of you that I don't even know where to start. First; I will miss your hugs for sure!!!. You were a “beautiful” person both inside and out. You were known for always having perfect hair and makeup. We always had so much fun going to the “few” IU football games with you guys. You were always dressed to the hilt even to the football games, and of course always wearing your IU spirit colors - red and white. I remember you and Patrick coming to our wedding and will be forever grateful for the beautiful pictures you captured for us. You definitely had an eye for taking pictures (including all of the Crilley family events). I remember after our wedding we all went back to the house and we watched the OJ Bronco run that night. Terry and I enjoyed meeting up with you guys a few times in Chicago too - getting our deep dish Chicago pizzas, and walking the town (you wearing your beautiful white Fox coat that Patrick gave you) - fun times for sure. Then, later back at the hotel all of us having a “Bailey’s before retiring for the night. It was always fun discussing politics and social events with you. I used to love when we talked on the phone and in person that you called me “sister”. I would also be remiss if I didn't mention your love of a good steak. I will never forget you always ordering the largest steak whenever we would go to a nice steakhouse for dinner. I never thought a petite woman like that you would be able to even make a dent in it; but somehow you managed to destroy it. I used to think maybe you were able to eat it because you hadn't eaten for a week or something- Who knows but you did it. You and Patrick made a good team and always complimented each other. We might not have been born Crilley's but we are Crilley sisters forever. No doubt Heaven is a better place today with you there. I hope you are partying it up in heaven with GOD and the rest of the family. While we may not be able to talk/see each other; memories of you will forever remain in my heart -until we meet again!!! Love you Sister, Joyce

Joyce Crilley - May 04, 2021 at 05:26 PM

RD

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Ross Dettling - May 04, 2021 at 12:08 PM

CO

I'm so happy to have known Darlene she really did have the best hugs and the most beautiful smile the most glamorous person I've ever known!!! Her hugs were so good and long that I would smell white diamonds for days after. I Have so many fun times with her and my brother I will cherish them . To many to put here but she will be missed and I will always love her. Darlene will always have a place in my heart. Till we meet again sister..Love You Cheryl

Cheryl Overturf - May 09, 2021 at 11:11 PM

ML

Darlene was a wonderful soul and terrific friend to my mother Dianne Hyde (d. 2020) for over 50 years. God bless.

Matt Lyons - May 20, 2022 at 04:41 PM