



Tanya Lee Nelson

October 2, 1956 - February 2, 2021

Tanya Lee Nelson, 64, of Rensselaer, Indiana, passed away Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at her residence. Tanya was born in Oakland, CA on October 2, 1956, the daughter of Erwin Leroy “Smokey” and Gertrude Ananda (Sjoberg) Hobbs.

Tanya graduated from James Logan High School with the Class of 1974. She married Don Nelson who preceded her in death in November 2019.

Tanya was retired from the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, where she worked as a Clerk. Prior to that, she was the Assistant Operations Director at Smart Vehicles Document Solutions by BMW and also worked at the Naval Supply Center in Oakland, CA. She will be remembered as a fun, kind, and loving lady. Tanya had a great love for animals, especially her four cats and birds, who were like children to her. She was fond of being outdoors and gardening. Every week she cherished her time meeting and visiting with friends over lunch. She was a long standing member of the First Unitarian Church of Hobart. Tanya will be deeply missed by her large community of friends at church.

Tanya is survived by her brother, Bruce (Kathy) Larson of Las Vegas, NV and her best friend, Carrie Cool of Rensselaer, IN.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

A Memorial Service for Tanya and her late husband Don will be held at a later date at the First Unitarian Church of Hobart. Interment will take place at the First Unitarian Church of Hobart Memorial Garden. Jackson Funeral Chapel of Rensselaer has been entrusted with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in Tanya's honor may be made to the Friends of the Jasper County Animal Shelter, c/o the Jasper-Newton Foundation, 301 N. Van Rensselaer St., Rensselaer, IN 47978, www.jaspernewtonfoundation.org

Tribute Wall

TF

“ I am the current president at First Unitarian Church of Hobart. While I've been a member for 10 years , I had only met Tanya last year. She was working the rummage sale, and I took a break from repairing a wall in the basement to say hi. While thoroughly enjoyed busting my balls over something, I could instantly tell she was a genuinely good person. Not only did she bring me a bottle of water, she had asked if there was anything I needed. I could tell she really meant it, too. We sat and talked for about 20 minutes, mostly about the church, but she conveyed to me how much it meant to her still to this day. She thanked me, and I in turn thanked her. She asked, what for? For the conversation, I said. She laughed, and said your welcome. We had talked a few times after that, and always with the same ending. She will be missed.

Tracy Ferrell - June 03, 2021 at 07:12 PM

DS

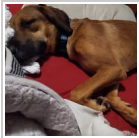
“ Tanya was a bridesmaid in my wedding back in July of 1972. We were very good friends back in high school even though I was 2 years ahead of her, I was always at her house or her at mine, and would always remember us just hanging out, and listening to music, and drinking coffee with her parents, they both were so sweet. I remember even going all the way to the Nut tree in Vacaville just for lunch with her and her parents. Lots of wonderful memories with her and unfortunately after getting married I moved to Seattle within that year and lost touch with her, but those are memories that will stay with me forever.

Debbie Slate - May 23, 2021 at 05:06 PM

KM

“ I'm so sorry to hear. I remember doing the rummage sale with her when I was still freshly married and before kids. She was always so loving and friendly. The world has lost a warm, kind-hearted person.

Kelly M - May 23, 2021 at 04:29 PM



“ Tanya and Carrie accepted me, on first meeting, as family. I looked up to her, enjoyed every moment she was around. Everything was filled with laughter, coffee, and good food. I did not know her long, but I felt like I knew her forever. She was a beautiful light in everyone's life. I will miss her dearly.

Stephie Albright - February 05, 2021 at 11:45 PM

VA

“ Tanya had a smile that was contagious. She allowed me into her life and friendship with Carrie, many a weekend was spent playing dominoes and goodwill shopping , and Coralling me into UU rummage sales even getting Dakota to be her clothes model when he was little. I remember our campfires and how she shared her love with everyone. She pulled herself thru one dark time in her life that eventually made her so much stronger. She finally found her own space and happiness. I will certainly miss you my dear friend. Enjoy the Summerland.

Vivian Austin - February 05, 2021 at 05:12 PM

BL

“ Tanya is my sister and we have always had animals in our lives, fish, birds, horned toads, chinchillas, dogs and cats. One of our dogs was a blood hound. The dog Dancer would love to lay around , usually in your way. One day when Tanya was about seven ,she tried to get Dancer out of her way so she grabbed him by the skin on his back and pulled up. She was standing full up but the dog was still on the ground with a sheet of skin between them. A funny sight to because it did frustrate her that she could not move him. So many memories good and bad. I will miss her. Tanya was 11years younger and I never expected to be the last member of our family to be alive. Such a right light to be dimmed so early.

Bruce Larson - February 05, 2021 at 04:40 PM