



Sheri I. Hoem

March 2, 1952 - September 16, 2024

Sheri I. Hoem, 72, of Hattiesburg, Mississippi peacefully passed away on September 14 after a long illness. The youngest of three children, she was born March 2, 1952 in Havre, Montana and raised in Cody, Wyoming. She worked as photographer for the Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody before earning bachelor's and master's degrees in English at the University of Wyoming. She earned a doctorate in English from the University of Buffalo. She taught English at Xavier University in New Orleans for nine years, where she became a tenured associate professor. She later taught literature and ethnic studies courses at the University of Idaho, Ithaca College and the University of Southern Mississippi. Her scholarly work examined the work of authors Toni Morrison, John Edgar Wideman and Samuel Becket, among others. After retiring from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2012, she pursued her longtime interest in photography, painting and mixed-media art. Her work

routinely

garnered multiple ribbons in the annual Hattiesburg Arts Council's competitions.

She was an animal lover and volunteered at the Hattiesburg Spay and Neuter Clinic, the

Southern Pines Animal Shelter and Worthy Stables in Petal, Mississippi, which provides

equine opportunities for people with disabilities. She volunteered as a letter-writer for a

number of Democratic political campaigns. She also volunteered at the Edwards Street

Fellowship Center's Food Pantry, and, along with her husband, delivered Meals on

Wheels weekly for Hattiesburg Christian Services.

Her generous philanthropic support was directed to progressive political causes, and

she lamented the failure of the intransigent political leaders in Mississippi to address the

state's most dire problems – mostly rooted in its racist legacy – especially poverty and

inadequate health care.

She had a special fondness for the city of New Orleans, where she met her husband

when they were both members of the faculty at Xavier University. They fell in love while

dancing to the music of Rockin' Dopsie and the Zydeco Twisters at the Maple Leaf Bar.

She loved the food (especially the smothered chicken at Mandina's, the fried chicken at

Coops and the elegant cuisine at Brigtsen's); the music (especially Dr. John and the

Neville Brothers); the live oak trees; the shotgun houses and Victorian mansions;

Audubon Park; the Mississippi River levee; and strolls through the French Quarter.

She is survived by her husband, Chris Campbell, and their dog, Hamilton; her sister,

Margo Stearns of Broomfield, Colorado; her nieces, Dana Sorensen of Erie, Colorado;

Lori Stearns of Loveland, Colorado; and Julie Threet of Chico, California; and her

nephews Joe and Matthew Williamson of Chico, California. She was preceded in her

death by her parents, Howard and Marion Williamson; her brother, Gary Williamson; her

niece, Teresa Stearns; and the family dogs, Doggers, Libby, Gracie and Willus.

In lieu of flowers the family requests that donations be directed to the Southern Pines Animal Shelter

or to the Presidential Campaign of Kamala Harris.

Tribute Wall

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“ *A beautiful and unique soul who saw the world's beauty like no other, whether in nature, art, literature, or humanity. You've impacted my life in more ways than I can express. I miss you dearly...*

Lori

Lori - September 28, 2024 at 12:34 AM