



Mrs. Diane M. (Morelle) vanderKraan

September 27, 1952 - June 21, 2015

Mrs. Diane (Morelle) vanderKraan, age 62, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, June 21, 2015 in the comfort of her home.

Born in Utica on September 27, 1952, Diane was the daughter of Francis A. Morelle and the late Jane L. (Weaver) Morelle. Diane was raised and educated in Utica, a graduate of Utica Free Academy/Class of 1969. She continued her education at Utica College of Syracuse University earning a BS degree in English. On March 7, 2003 she married Adrian vanderKraan with whom she shared twelve wonderful years filled with fun and reciprocal love. Diane was an absolute and true diamond. She was thoughtful to the horizon and was a perfect partner; she made each day its very best.

Immediately following her college graduation, Diane accepted a teaching position in the Utica City School District. She was an amazing and inspirational educator. She loved her students and they knew and loved her as Mrs. Czepiel. She was a shining light in the Utica City schools; she had a sure footed knowledge of her subject, an engaging style which kept her students involved, and a witty and talented approach to the subject of English. She turned prose into drama, poetry into song, and grammar into a murder mystery. After her retirement, she continued to produce humorous writing essays for her column in various newspapers and magazines. She authored two novels. Diane was a supporter of M.W.P.A.I. and Players Theater. She loved film, animation, music, theater, and the performing arts. Diane was a powerful advocate for her pupils and a precious friend to many.

Diane was most happy traveling with the love of her life, Adrian. They journeyed to many places, including their most memorable trip to Australia. Diane was adored by her family and loved beyond measure. Her storytelling at family gatherings will be forever treasured. Her generosity and compassion truly defined her. It was never more evident than in the times she spent with her cherished niece and nephew, Jenna and Joe.

Diane is survived by her loving, devoted husband, Adrian; her father, Fran Morelle and his fiancée Cheryl Ridley; and her sisters and brothers-in-law, Teresa F. and Charles Rogers of Utica, Nancy J. Morelle of New Hartford, and Jackie Morelle Bonomo and her husband Thomas Bonomo of Clinton. She will remain in the hearts of her nieces and nephews, Jenna, and Joseph Bonomo; and Darcy Foreman, Sibylla and Elvie vanderKraan; many loving aunts, uncles, and a host of cousins. She also leaves Adrian's family in Australia: her mother-in-law, Carol vanderKraan; in-laws, Louise vanderKraan and Prue Foreman, Paul and Emma vanderKraan. She will be missed by her feline friends Jules, Milo, and Sydney who were always close to her heart.

Those whose lives were touched by Diane are respectfully invited to attend her Memorial Gathering on Saturday afternoon from 2:00-4:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Help Animals Live Organization (HALO) cat shelter, 615 Albany St., Little Falls, NY 13365; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home.

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 27. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Tribute Wall

FB

“ Although I only met Diane 7 years ago when she & Adrian adopted Sidney and Milo and we seldom saw each other I felt more affection for her than many long time friends. She was one of the nicest and easy going people I knew and I will miss her amusing e-mails and cards. I regret not getting together for a lunch we planned for years and very sad that time got away from us. My deepest sympathy to Adrian and family.

Faye Bunk
(HALO)

Faye Bunk - June 30, 2015 at 09:14 PM

GO

“ We were lucky enough to meet Diane on her trip to Australia. A lovely, warm, caring person who we have thought of fondly since that meeting. Diane loved the natural beauty of Manly where we live, and of course our cat Ti. We were hoping to catch up in the US and are very sad that is no longer a possibility. Love and great memories, from Down Under. Carrollanne, Gary, Dakota and Jamison

Gary O'Brien - June 28, 2015 at 12:40 AM

JW

“ I was so surprised to hear about Diane. I grew up with her on West Street.
We had so many nice conversations and good times. She helped me with my homework many a time and I'm sure she was a wonderful teacher!
I left the area and she remained so I haven't seen her in many many years.
You have my deepest sympathy. Jeanette Yacco Watters

Jeanette Watters - June 27, 2015 at 09:50 AM



“ 75 files added to the album



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - June 26, 2015 at 04:07 PM

GK

“ One of the memories we have of our neighbor Diane is the time Diane offered her car to my husband, when his car did not start. At that time Diane had known us for a couple days. We are so glad we had known Diane. Diane was the best neighbor; so gifted; frequently thinking of others.
Our family will miss Diane so much.

gordana keric - June 25, 2015 at 06:56 PM