

Obituary

Donna June Mangum, 60



Donna June Mangum, 60, of Blackfoot, passed away Monday, January 25, 2010 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Donna was born to Norma and Marion Day in Kansas City, Missouri on October 13, 1949. Donna's father passed away when she was 10 years old and she lived with her mother and beloved Grandmother Day until her mother married Hank Hudgens three years later. Her step-father's job in construction took her family several places, but Donna eventually graduated from Westport High School in Missouri in 1967.

Knowing the value of education, Donna joined the Air Force in 1968. She met and married Dan Cozby of Oklahoma City and they both served in the military in Japan where she and Dan became the proud parents of Dana Diane.

Upon returning to the United States, Donna attended college on the G.I. Bill. Donna and Dan parted ways, and Donna raised Dana while working as a Respiratory Therapist in Altus, Oklahoma; Dillon, Montana; and many places in between.

In February 1979 Donna continued her career as the Director of Respiratory Therapy at Bingham Memorial Hospital here in Blackfoot. While working at Bingham, Dell Mangum began courting her when he visited the hospital on ambulance runs. Donna, however, decided to take a job in Butte, Montana. Yet upon her arrival, a card and poetry from Dell was waiting for her in the mailbox. Dell continued to court Donna and eventually proposed to her one spring evening by slipping an engagement ring into a box of Cracker-Jacks. Dell and Donna were married August 15, 1981. Donna took on the job of raising three young girls and continuing the Mangum dream in Groveland with Dell.

Donna continued to work in southeast Idaho as a Respiratory Therapist and enjoyed spending time with her family while attending church at Emmanuel Baptist Church. Donna was forced to take a medical retirement from respiratory therapy after being diagnosed with an Arterial-Venous Malformation and underwent surgery on her brain stem. Although her recovery was long and tedious, she miraculously became stronger and stronger eventually regaining her independence and ability to drive once again.

Donna continued to demonstrate her independence as she enjoyed spending time with her granddaughters, shopping, walking with friends, successfully selling Mary Kay, and proudly raising Pug puppies among other numerous eclectic hobbies.

Beating the odds, Donna survived a stroke in April 2008 and a stroke in October 2009. Her remaining days were spent in a Salt Lake City Rehab facility. She worked hard and was progressing to once again regain her independence. A third stroke on January 25, 2009 was too much, and her life was cut short. She will be missed by family and friends. We take comfort knowing that it was her body and not her spirit that took her.

She is preceded in death by her father, mother, stepfather, sister Hester Hudgens, and grandmother.

She is survived by her husband Dell Mangum; Daughters Dana (Chris) Solomon, Bekki Mangum (Willie Preacher), and Anji Mangum; Step-son Phil (Dawn) Drollinger; and grandchildren, Riley, Cody, Paige, and Erin.

A funeral service will be held 7:00 p.m. Friday, January 29, 2010 at Hawker Funeral Home, 132 S. Shilling Ave., Blackfoot, Idaho.

The family will meet with friends that evening from 6-7:00 p.m. at the funeral home prior to the service.