

Connie Delorme

Connie Delorme, the heart of the CCHA. We will miss you dearly.

Constance Maureen "Connie" (Collins) Delorme beloved daughter of Grant and Mary Collins passed away suddenly February 1, 2017 at the age of 69 at her home near Innisfail, Alberta.

Connie was born February 28, 1947 in Crystal City, Manitoba. She attended school in Pilot Mound and later graduated from Business College in Winnipeg.

As a child, Connie enjoyed a wonderful upbringing with her 3 older siblings. Her parents strived to provide the best life possible including sports of all kinds, music, Sunday school and education. All the music festivals, skating carnivals and picnics at the lake laid the foundation for true kindness and friendship.

Connie always had a companion, a lovable Labrador "Lady", who would know exactly when school was dismissed and run down the street and around the corner to meet her. Soon Connie's piano lessons became overshadowed by a greater love of horses. Rather than help her mother on Saturdays, she convinced her she must go down to the barn to clean it out. No task was too great, from bringing in her horse through a heavy snowstorm or getting back on "Copper" after he had bucked her off. She loved cleaning out her Grandpa's barn every Saturday morning, where she kept her horse. Chores became a welcomed weekend job instead of housework.

Connie married Lyall Delorme at the Pilot Mound United Church on April 20, 1968. This would eventually lead her to Alberta where Lyall was working.

In addition to raising her children, Tyler and Misty on the outskirts of Calgary, Connie always had a full-time job and evening chores to follow. She was always good at holding down the "fort". In these years, Connie also spent many hours working at the Symons Valley BBQ Ranch, where many laughs and memories were made.

Connie enjoyed curling, camping and playing cards with her family and friends. She recently enjoyed a school reunion back home that she had organized. She had mastered the science of loving and caring for animals.

Following their divorce in 1990 Connie, Tyler and Misty remained west of Airdrie. Days were filled with hockey, baseball and 4-H. Misty and Tyler both graduated from Bert Church High School. Tyler attended SAIT and Misty studied dental assisting.

Connie enjoyed her work at the Canadian Simmental Association then on to the Canadian Cutting Horse Association where she continued to work for over 20 years. Her dedication and

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attention to detail was profound. You could not find a more passionate person. Connie loved the horses and the people that accompanied them. Many life long friends were made from her work with the CCHA. It was said she was the “glue” of the association.

Despite facing many tough times, Connie maintained dignity and strength of character that was admired by many while raising her two children. She was an amazing mother to Tyler and Misty. She was so proud of Tyler becoming a journeyman mechanic and owning his own business. Misty’s passion for horses became her pride and joy.

For the past 17 years, Connie had been blessed with 4 grandchildren. Tristen (17), Cheyenne (15), Fallon (12) and Jett (8). She was their biggest fan and loved cheering at Hockey Games, Dance, Skating and Horse Shows.

With so many stories left to tell, Connie’s remarkable kind nature and love for her family and furry friends will be cherished forever.

Connie is survived by her sister Carolanne Bayne, brother’s Dale (Lee) Collins, Gary (Sherry) Collins, son Tyler (Angie) Delorme, daughter Misty (Shane) Reberger and precious grandchildren Tristen, Cheyenne, Fallon and Jett. She also leaves behind numerous loving relatives and friends.

Memorial Service were held at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #104, Innisfail, Alberta, Monday February 13, 2017.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be sent to your local SPCA or the Juvenile Diabetes Association of Canada.