

Part-time Grossmont College English instructor, 2003 to 2014.

Allison Marie Edwards

Obituary



LA MESA, CA – Allison Marie Edwards, 43, formerly of Monterey, died at home on June 6, 2014.

Allison was born in Minneapolis, MN, on January 13, 1971. She attended school in Parshall, ND until 1980 when she moved with her mother to Monterey, CA. She graduated from Monterey High School in 1989, received a Bachelor's degree in Linguistics from UC Santa Barbara in 1992, a Master's degree in Education from Indiana University in 2002 and a TESL (Teaching English as a Second Language) certificate from UC Santa Cruz that same year. Her love of language started at an early age and her desire to teach followed. She began her teaching career by serving as a volunteer tutor in the Monterey County Free Libraries Adult Literacy Program as a young adult and, following college, later traveled to China and Japan where she taught English. She taught briefly at De Anza College in Cupertino, CA and at the time of her death was teaching at San Diego City College, Grossmont College and Southwestern College, all located in the San Diego area. She was also a long-time employee of Evans Hotels.

Her co-workers at the Catamaran Hotel remember her most for her delicious contributions to their potlucks and for the BBQ's she hosted. She is also remembered for being a good listener, a level-headed confidant and so valued as an experienced and knowledgeable employee, that when she tried to resign, they refused to accept it, reducing her schedule until she could return full-time at the close of the school year.

Jason Boxell, Allison's long-time friend and love, was summoned when she failed to report to work there on Friday, June 6, 2014, and it was later learned that her life had been swiftly and suddenly cut short by a ruptured cerebral artery aneurysm. Allison loved reading, cooking, football and baseball, traveling and cats. When planning a trip, she researched thoroughly and studied maps meticulously. She often bemoaned the fact that reading a paper map was becoming "a lost art" and she valued her atlas as much as her assorted electronic gadgets. She particularly looked forward to road trips with her mother, and when they traveled, it was often on byways and back roads...indeed, the roads less traveled.

She is survived by her mother, Helen Edwards, of Seaside, CA, and her many loving aunts, cousins and uncles. She also left behind, Roman, her furry feline companion, whose care, Jason has lovingly assumed.

The family wishes to thank Grossmont, Southwestern, and San Diego City College for their compassion and concern and offers special thanks to Allison's many friends and the staff and management of Evans Hotels for their kindness, warmth and generosity during this difficult time.

A gathering of her friends and co-workers was held in La Mesa June 12, 2014 to honor and remember her life. Langhans Funeral Home of Parshall is in charge of services which will take place in Parshall on June 23, 2014.

Those wishing to remember Allison's life may do so by making a contribution to any SPCA or an academic endeavor of the donor's choice. The family would also be very grateful to have Allison honored by doing as she would have done: sharing a smile or a funny story, offering a word of encouragement or taking time for a friend.

Published in The Monterey Herald on June 17, 2014