



Carla Danielle Lamphere

July 18, 1947 - October 25, 2014

Traverse City - Carla Danielle Lamphere, 67, of Traverse City passed away Saturday, October 25, 2014 at her Traverse City home, surrounded by her loving family.

Born on Friday, July 18, 1947 in Bay City, Carla was the daughter of Chauncey and Dorothy (Kibby) Wood. Following her graduation from the Leelanau School in Glen Arbor, Carla attended Michigan State University, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Advertising. She was a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority.

On Saturday, June 20, 1970, Carla married Ward Lamphere in Bay City. They made their home in Birmingham, MI from 1970 until 2010, when they moved to Traverse City. Carla began her career in banking in 1970 followed by 32 very rewarding years as Executive Director of the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra. After retiring and moving up north, she became Vice President of the Traverse Symphony Orchestra. Her passion for volunteering continued with her involvement with the Grand Traverse County court system as conservator and guardian. Carla's business card read "Pursuer of Lofty Undertakings," and that summed her up perfectly. A self-proclaimed lover of life, she had many passions, included writing, yoga, tennis, golf, pickleball, biking, kayaking, and hiking. Carla was an inspiration and joy to all who knew her. She was the consummate wife, mother, neighbor, and friend. She truly had a heart of gold – and everyone loved her.

Carla is survived by her husband Ward; her son Benjamin Lamphere and his wife Stephanie (Dacey) of Traverse City, her daughter Jessica Lamphere of San Diego, CA; five grandchildren (Ryan Lamphere, Katie Lamphere, Winston Lamphere, Mera Lamphere, and Angelica Prieto), her sister Michael (Fancher) Jansen of Cyprus; and her brothers Jon Wood of Orlando, FL and Roger Wood of Las Vegas, NV.

A private family gathering will be held in lieu of a formal public service.

Memorial contributions may be directed to the Birmingham-Bloomfield Symphony Orchestra. P. O. Box 1925, Birmingham, MI 48012 (<http://www.bbso.org>) or The Traverse

Symphony Orchestra, 300 E. Front St. Ste 230, Traverse City, MI 49684 (<http://www.traversesymphony.org>)

Your thoughts and memories of Carla may be shared with her family by way of her online guest book at <http://www.reynolds-jonkhoff.com>.

The family is being served by the Reynolds-Jonkhoff Funeral Home and Cremation Services.

Comments



“ Carla and Ward were wonderful neighbors of our mother, Helen Gibiser, on Buckingham. Such a beautiful neighborhood growing up, Ward and Carla kept the community connection going and especially supported our mom as she aged there. We can't thank you enough for your support of her - of Carla's energy and contributions to the world, esp. the symphonies. She was a lovely woman who shared her creative soul and spirit with all. One great lady. Bless you all,

Martha Gibiser Shea and Gail Gibiser Sanderson and family.

Martha Shea - December 01, 2014 at 11:48 PM



“ I was so sorry to hear of Carla's death. I knew her from yoga and from the State Theatre. She had a down-to-earth sense of humor that I really appreciated. She was a true light. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Betsy Emdin

Betsy Emdin - November 05, 2014 at 09:10 PM



“ Ward,

From everybody involved with the NMCAA volunteer tax preparation program we send our deepest condolences to you and your family on the loss of Carla. It has been deeply inspirational reading some of the accomplishments of her wonderful life.

Our best to you.

Mike Macek

Mike - November 04, 2014 at 09:45 AM



“ A year ago we were privileged to be Carla's new next door neighbors. Last November 10th she made my husband's birthday party a success, master of ceremonies for a Pictionary game that went way beyond the hour that all of us would have been in bed.

She was the sort of person that you would glance over to see everyday, because she was so full of life and elegant and strong in her convictions... and we were fortunate to have that until we moved...

Carla, you promised me a hug in Northport and I am waiting!

We are very happy however, that we fell in love with you,

Laura (and Arnie Hollenbeck)

P.S. Our condolences to Ward and the kids and everyone who ever knew her.



Laura Hollenbeck - November 02, 2014 at 08:18 PM



“ Ward, Annie Couterier told me of Carla's passing. So sorry. She was a nice, fun lady. I not only played pickleball with her, but volunteered at the Opera House with her. She will be missed.

Karen Richardson

Karen Richardson - November 02, 2014 at 06:12 PM



“ Working at a small non-profit, we were overstressed and understaffed right before a big event. Out of the blue, Carla appeared as a volunteer, jumping in with both feet, showing up day after day, and handling things with apparent ease and joy. The Volunteer Sent from Heaven! She was a wonderful person who arrived at the right time to be so helpful and so terrific. Our event for youth went off without a hitch, in part due to Carla's contributions. Soon after, we lost her to another good cause--her volunteer work with youth in the court system. But I have and always will appreciate what she did!

--Tara Ward

Tara Ward - November 02, 2014 at 12:18 PM



“ Ward, just read of your wife's passing. So sorry for your loss, my condolences to you and your family.

Larry Winter

NMCAA Tax Program

Larry Winter - November 02, 2014 at 10:43 AM