



Joy Kathleen Haley

October 19, 1958 - March 11, 2024

Joy Haley, an amazing woman, beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, peacefully left this earthly plane at the age of 64 on March 11th with her love, Geri, by her side. She leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness, and joy that touched the lives of all who knew her.

Joys is preceded in death by her father Eugene Douglas, her mother Norma Jean and her brother Justin. She will be sorely missed and survived by her wife and best friend Geri, her daughter Jill, her grandchildren Adrian and Ariana and her extended family including her nieces Sheila Hertz, Amanda Haley-Johnston, Kristy Locatelli and nephews Nick Haley and Justin Haley.

Her love of life was evident in the way she lived. Even simple things turned into a fun time with family, friends, and of course food! For us, she really is that pebble thrown into a lake as the lives she touched act as ripples that extend far beyond just us. She had an active role in her community, teaching, volunteering and supporting her spiritual center.

Born October 19th, 1959, in Wichita Kansas, where her father was a rodeo rider and musician, then the family moved to Capitola California where they settled.

Joy was the epitome of her name. Throughout her life, she exuded love,

warmth, compassion, and her radiant playful spirit brightened the lives of those around her. She had a remarkable ability to connect with people. She approached every challenge with unwavering optimism. She was beautiful, kind, funny, talented, selfless, cool, smart, and tough all at the same time. She never met a stranger and was sincerely kind to everyone.

Throughout her career as an accountant, she would tackle a challenge with the curiosity of a forensic accountant, determined to get to the “balanced” account. In addition to her work she was the backbone of the music department at Center For Spiritual Living and as a practitioner provided many people with prayer, council and much needed insight.

Joy could sing a “knock your socks off” version of Eta James’ song “At Last”. Yes, she accomplished many other things, but the quality of her voice cannot be overstated. She was in her happy place when she was singing. Over the years she sang at many different venues; Churches, county fairs, special events, weddings, living rooms of her family and friends, and so on. As a tribute to her generous spirit, she was forever patient with those friends and family members that wanted to sing with her.

Joy was a devoted wife to the love of her life Geri Avila for 15 years. Their marriage was built on a foundation of love, respect, and mutual support, serving as an inspiration to many. Together, they navigated life's joys and sorrows, creating countless cherished memories. Along the way, they had many adventures together. Joy especially loved their spontaneous road trips.

As a mother, Joy was a source of boundless love and encouragement to her daughter, Jill. She took great pride in Jill’s accomplishments. They had the gift of working together and spending family time together. Joy’s nurturing spirit fostered an environment of love and acceptance within her family.

Joy adored her role as a grandmother to her two grandchildren, Adrian and Ariana. She cherished the time spent with them, delighting in watching them grow. They will forever hold a special place in her heart.

Throughout her life, Joy touched the lives of countless individuals with her generosity and kindness. Her special smile and compassionate nature left an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing her. She will be deeply missed by her family, friends, and all who had the pleasure of crossing paths with her.

In addition to her wife, children, and grandchildren, Joy is survived by extended family members, and a host of friends who will continue to honor her memory through acts of love and kindness.

A celebration of Joy's life will be held at 1:00pm on June 29th at Center for Spiritual living. The address is 1818 Felt St, Santa Cruz, CA 95062. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests that donations be made to Center for Spiritual living (mailed or online at <https://cslsantacruz.org>), reflecting Joy's passion for helping others.

Joy's light has not dimmed on Earth, and her spirit will continue to shine brightly in the hearts of those she loved. May she forever be surrounded by the love and joy she brought into the world.