



Catherine Yates Parrish

AUG 23, 1959 - FEB 17, 2025



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Catherine Yates Parrish

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Catherine Patricia Yates Parrish, born August 23, 1959, in Miami Beach, FL, passed away on February 17, 2025, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. She was 65.

Cathy grew up in North Miami Beach and spent much of her life dedicated to serving others. She worked as a telecommunications operator for the Dade County Fire Department for 14+ years, providing vital communication during emergencies. She also worked for FEMA in New Orleans and Pensacola after devastating hurricanes and served as a Safety Officer at PGS Onshore. Her years of service were a testament to her compassion and commitment to her community.

In the early 1990s Cathy relocated from Miami to Bonifay, FL where she enjoyed the outdoors, her family and friends, and her beloved animals. She was able to raise horses, mules, dogs, cats, chickens, and rabbits. Later in 2008 she relocated to Pensacola, where she spent the last 16 years running her own business, Woof Washers, a mobile dog grooming venture that allowed her to connect with and care for the animals that she adored so much. Her love for animals was paramount in her life, and she formed lasting bonds with her clients, both human and four-legged alike.

Those close to Cathy would agree that she was fueled by determination, intelligence, and a strong sense of integrity. Cathy was beautiful and unpretentious. She was one of a kind and not afraid to take a stand and support her cause with valid, thoughtful reasoning, usually on behalf of those less fortunate. Cathy had diverse interests and enjoyed adventure, travel, and learning about the world. She was comfortable and spent time on land and water. She enjoyed horseback riding, camping, and walking on the beach, as well as cruising on a ship or paddling a canoe, or investigating a coral reef as a certified scuba diver. Cathy was very creative and always ready to learn a new hobby or perfect an old one.

Cathy has many devoted friends who agree that her generous heart, openness, understanding and accepting nature, and willingness to help were a rare and wonderful combination that will be



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greatly missed. Although her two marriages ended in divorce, she gained the love and admiration of many beautiful children and grandchildren whom she loved and influenced. Each of them has lasting, positive, and meaningful memories of Cathy.

Cathy is a cherished daughter, sister, stepmom and grandmother, aunt, and friend. Her kindness, loyalty, and unwavering dedication to those she loved will be remembered fondly by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Cathy was preceded in death by her father, Keith Yates. She is survived by her mother, Leah Yates, brother, Jerry Yates (Terry) and sister, Mary Yates Codrick (Vince), beloved nieces and nephews Sarah Yates Rossman (Dan), Taylor Codrick de Torres (Fernando), and Bryce Codrick, step children Tracie Porter MacDonald (Scott), Todd Porter, Lori Parrish Fernandez (Nestor), Manda Ruiz, Traci Lyn Sanz, devoted extended family, countless friends and, of course, by many paws. Cathy's legacy of care, compassion, and service will live on in the hearts of those she touched.

A private celebration of her life will be held later. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to local animal shelters, pancreatic cancer research organizations, or Big Bend Hospice in Cathy's honor.

Rest in peace, Cathy. Your light will continue to shine, and your love for animals will never be forgotten.



Tribute Wall

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Anita Weschler posted:

I just found out you have left us. You were my first trainer at Dade Fire Rescue oh so many years ago. You were also my inspiration to do my best to make you proud. Rest well dear Cathy. You will be in my heart always.

August 23 at 5:31 AM



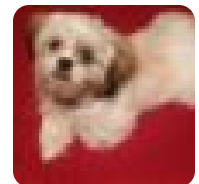
Terry Yates posted:

Cathy was my sister in law. I met her when her brother, Jerry and I began dating. She was 16. I knew immediately that we shared a love for animals. Cathy was raising chinchillas back then. I had never seen a real life chinchilla, much less known someone who owned any. I was thrilled to see them. Later, I would get to see the beautiful cockatiels she raised. As a young woman, Cathy got her first horse, Phyllis. She later had her first foal, Sport, through Phyllis. She loved those horses immensely and I think they were her favorites of all her mules and horses that followed. When she started her grooming business, Woof Washers, I knew it would be a labor of love. Cathy was one of the strongest people I had ever met. She pulled me out of a smoking car after a wreck on I-75 in North GA. Someone going in the other direction lost control and sped across the median hitting our car, loaded with 5 people and towing a camping RV. I was dazed from a concussion and hysterical over everyone's injuries. She came to my side, telling me to get out of the car as it was smoking. I wouldn't get out. She reached under my arms and pulled me out. I always said she'd be a great companion to have if marooned on a desert island. She would build a shelter and a fire, hunt for food, dress it and cook the food on the fire, while the rest of us would still be scratching our heads wondering what to do. Cathy was unique and one of the most interesting people I ever knew. R.I.P. dear Cathy. You will always be missed.

February 28 at 4:23 PM



Robert J Bren shared a photo to the **Bob and Linda** album.



February 20 at 7:06 AM

RB Robert J Bren February 20 at 7:18 AM

Catherine and Our family (Bob an Linda and especially Coco) were friends first, customers for years. She will be greatly missed and our deepest sympathy to her family for their loss. Catherine was a fighter till the end.



Media

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Robert J Bren shared a photo to the **Bob and Linda** album.

February 20 at 7:06 AM



Coco groomed By Catherine



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Catherine by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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