



Alicia DeAnne Cast

November 22, 1968 - February 22, 2024

Alicia Cast Obituary

“Though she be but little she is fierce” William Shakespeare, A Midsummer Night’s Dream

Alicia DeAnne Cast passed away suddenly in her home on February 22, 2024. She was 55 years old.

Alicia loved. Those who were lucky enough to be in her close circle of family and friends, know she loved fiercely. She had a protective spirit for those she cared for which made her a person of support and a source of strength. Her fierce love shimmered through her creative side in her jewelry making, cooking, gardening and knitting; bringing nourishment, beauty and warmth for those around her. Her fierce love was seen in her voice; a strong advocate for herself and for those around her. Her fierce love burned brightest when it came to her sons, Benjamin and Oliver. There are no words to capture how much she cherished them and how proud she was; not just because they were her sons, but because of who they are as men. Alicia had finally turned that fierce love toward herself and was able to give herself grace and appreciation for the intelligent, independent woman she had always been. Her wry smile and dark brown eyes filled with determination and her caring soul will be greatly missed.

Alicia Deanne Cast was born November 22, 1968, in Denver, CO. She graduated from Grand Island Senior High School, Grand Island, NE in 1986. Alicia went on to earn her Bachelor’s in Sociology from Beloit College, Cum Laude and with Honors in 1990. Upon receiving her degree, Alicia then attended school at Washington State University on a graduate assistantship where she earned her doctorate in Sociology in 1998.

Alicia taught Sociology in higher education for a number of years through a post-doctorate at Indiana University, and faculty positions at Iowa State University and University of California Santa Barbara. A profile of her accomplishments and scholarship can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/y254bmse>

Alicia is survived by her sons, Benjamin and Oliver Cast Potoski of Santa Barbara, CA; her parents Larry and Beverly Cast of Elkhorn, NE, sister Melissa Cast-Brede and her husband Kent Brede, Omaha, NE; sister Shandra Cast and her husband Keith Eiler, Loveland, CO; uncles Roy (Norma) Cast; Wayne (Lisa), aunts Marian (Alan) Ruge; Elaine (Ted) Phillips; Cheryl Wall; honorary uncle Ted (Maureen) Behlke, Benkelman, NE; her partner Karl Wright, and friend Trudy Aufderheide, as well as numerous cousins and friends who made up her found family.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Marvin and Lois Cast, Beaver Crossing, NE and Melvin (Doc) and Arlene Spears, Benkelman, NE; aunts Verle Behlke, Benkelman, NE, Diane Dawson, Fairmont, NE, Jean Kunert, Milford, NE; uncle Bill Kunert, Milford, NE, and her cousin Kara Behlke Ungerman, Des Moines, IA.

On behalf of Alicia, who was a regular blood donor like her father, her family would appreciate memorial donations be made to the American Red Cross, <https://www.redcross.org/donate/memorial-donations.html/>

Two memorial services will be held in Alicia's memory:

March 23, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. A traditional memorial service will be held at the United Methodist Church in Beaver Crossing, NE.

April 13, 2024 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. A celebration of life gathering will be held at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 380 N Fairview Ave, Goleta, CA.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR **13**. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (PT)

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
380 N. Fairview Ave.
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 967-1416
<http://www.gslcms.org>