



## Julia Lee Norton

June 12, 1945 - August 7, 2020

Julia Lee Norton passed away quietly surrounded by family and love on August 7, 2020 in Vancouver, WA at the age of 75.

She was born June 12, 1945 to Ted and Mildred Wright in Seattle, WA. Later she became a big sister to her twin sisters, Beth and Bonnie. She graduated from Hudson's Bay HS in 1963 with high honors and married her junior high sweetheart LeRoy Bohna in 1965. She raised her sons, Mike and Tim Bohna in Brush Prairie and also went on a family adventure to Dutch Harbor, Alaska in 1978. There she remained until 1985 working as a bookkeeper for a seafood company. She met and married the love of her life Robert Norton in 1983. After he retired they moved back to Brush Prairie where she lived until 2019 when she then moved to Battle Ground until her death.

Julia (Julie) has worked as a bookkeeper/accountant/secretary for many different companies, including the Clark County Planning Commission, VA Hospital, Benchmarks and the "B" Mart all located in Clark County as well as Sea Alaska Seafoods, Unalaska Public Health Office and the Unisea Inn (Universal Seafoods) all while she resided in Alaska.

Julie had a wide variety of interests and hobbies including spending time with her family and friends, traveling in the US and abroad, reading, bird watching, the arts, music (she was an accomplished pianist), sewing, gardening and

flowers (unfortunately the deer ate a large portion of her hard work), doing crossword puzzles and learning in general. She portrayed Mrs Julia Grant for the Fort Vancouver Historical Society for many years (those Julia's stick together!). She got her Associates Degree from Clark College in 1993. She was also a Cub Scout Den Mother, bless her heart. She was a very loving and wonderful mother to her two boys as well as a loving and caring wife.

She is survived by her two sons Mike Bohna (Lizzeth) of Amboy, WA and Tim Bohna (Jennibeth) of Yacolt, WA. Her sisters Beth Woodward and Bonnie Steenblock (Marlin) both of Vancouver, WA. She has 5 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren with a 3rd on the way!

She was preceded in death by her husband of 20 years, Robert Norton, her mother Mildred Wright Burnett, her father Ted Wright, her step father Lowell Burnett and her niece Christie Edington.

Her memorial service will be held on August 21, 2020 at Evergreen Memorial Gardens at 2pm. Unfortunately, due to the current global pandemic it will only be for immediate family members. However, it will be available to be viewed online live and accessible through Evergreen Memorial Garden's website for 90 days after the service. Please contact her son, Mike Bohna for the details. In lieu of flowers contributions in her name can be made to PeaceHealth Hospice 5400 MacArther Blvd, Vancouver WA 98661 or to the Humane Society of SW WA 1100 NE 192nd Ave, Vancouver WA 98684.

Julie was a warm, kind and generous soul that will be sorely missed by all that knew her.

# Tribute Wall

MB

“ I so very sorry to hear of Julie's passing. Julie and Bob were our next door neighbors for the entirety of my childhood in Hockinson, Washington. Julie was truly a gem - the kind of wonderful neighbor that you expect to find in children's stories. You could always count on Julie to purchase at least one cup of over-sweetened lemonade or Koolaid at each neighborhood stand - sometimes extra if she saw it was a slow day. Each May Day she feigned surprise when a dandelion/wildflower/fern arrangement arrived on her doorstep with a doorbell ring and a gaggle of kids from the street poorly hidden behind the trees. She offered us fresh raspberries in the summer, and let us cut through the treed back edge of her property on our "super secret adventure path" connecting the kids on our street. And in a true testament to her encouragement of the neighborhood kids, she sat through more than one "performance" that consisted mostly of a bunch of kiddos showing off their newly-learned trampoline flips under the guise of a "circus." She was patient and endlessly kind with us, and I have such fond memories of being her next-door neighbor. My sincere condolences to Julie's family and friends during this difficult time.

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**Michelle Primley Benton** - August 31, 2020 at 12:00 AM

CK

“ Cousin Julie was always smiling, like she knew an inside joke. She was the Big Sister for all of us girls. I remember one Christmas at Mildred and Lowell's house, when Julie and Leroy were there. They had a special package for her folks. Everyone got excited when it was a pair of baby booties inside!! So many wonderful memories with a beautiful woman, mother and cousin.

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**Christine Kamps** - August 21, 2020 at 12:00 AM

LB

“ You will always be in our hearts my dearest Julie. A marvelous and exceptional woman with many great qualities this was my mother-in-law. I give thanks to this life for having the opportunity to get to know you and to have you as my mother-in-law. Forgive me for not being able to be at your side to say goodbye. I'll always remember you with lots of love and affection. Love, your daughter-in-law, Lizzeth

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**Lizzeth Bohna** - August 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ I am so incredibly fortunate to have had Julie as my mother. When she passed I not only lost my mom but I lost a very close and dear friend. She had the widest variety of interests of anyone I have ever met and how I would look forward to our long and wonderful conversations. Going through her photos I am discovering other interests and hobbies she had that I either never knew or had forgotten. Stamp collecting when she was a girl and painting art are just two examples. My bother and I had a great childhood growing up in Brush Prairie where mom had her first house. It was a beautiful setting and Mom kept it that way. She managed a large garden and had the occasional milk goat. We even took the goat tent camping once so Mom could milk her. She loved that goat, Sugar. She was a great Cub Scout den mother. She made sure we had some great outings. Bird watching and identification were a big hit at the Ridgefield WL Refuge. Even though we were not a very religious family, Mom made sure we got some of that education as well; Sunday School at the Bethel Lutheran Church in Brush Prairie was mandatory....100% Mom. Mom adored her friends and family. She made several lifelong friends. She was very close to her twin sisters. When they would get together that would just make her day. Mom could be very very social but she also loved her time alone. She was very independent, preferring to live alone with her cat(s). Her "alone" time was very important and necessary to her wellbeing. She told me once that one of her flaws was that she was selfish with her time. That's how important being alone was to her. That being said, she would do anything for my brother and myself. Sometimes at a moment's notice. A few examples; taking care of my somewhat uncouth dog for days at a time, getting on a jet and flying to where I got married (twice), coming to visit when I needed emotional support (more jet travel), helping me with my first house down payment and letting my wife live with her while I was at work for weeks at a time. Mom always had my back. Always. She was also a fantastic mother-in-law to my wife, Lizzeth. Taking her to immigration related appointments, helping her learn to drive in her much coveted Toyota pickup, among many other examples. Mom didn't get a chance to bond much with my daughter Casey which to

*me is a huge tragedy. Casey is only 2 years old. My girl is going to miss out on getting to know my incredible mother. Mom always had a guilty conscience about once being a "bad mom". Well, rest assured, Mom, that you will never be remembered as anything other than being an excellent mother to myself and my dear brother. I will always love you and will cherish every beautiful memory of you I am blessed to have. Mike Bohna*

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**Mike Bohna** - August 18, 2020 at 12:00 AM