



Charles C. Mellinger, aka, “Manzer” 1962-2020

In 1982, Charles was getting ready to go back to college at Washington State University in Pullman, to continue studies in the veterinary program. His roommate Pete flew in from Connecticut and stayed with Charles and his family so the two could drive together to Pullman. On September 7, they went to the movies; on their way home, a drunk driver crashed into their car. Pete was killed instantly and Charles was taken to the hospital with a head injury and shattered pelvis. He woke from his coma six weeks later.



After a year in rehab, Charles lived at home with his parents for 33 years. During that time he was a volunteer reader at a grade school and at LeMay car museum. He went on a family trip to Hawaii with his parents. Lisa and Charles’ mother died in 2009 and their father in 2017. Charles moved to Franke Tobey Jones Senior Living Community 5 years ago where he made many friends. Some of his favorite things were word search puzzle books, playing dominoes, traveling to Long Beach, going to concerts at the Puyallup fair, eating fish and chips, cheesecake and lasagna. He loved to collect pigs, and make people laugh! He was always positive and cheerful. He wrote in journals of his observations on life and what happened daily in his life. He loved his mom and dad, our family. His beloved sister, Lisa, and his friend and caregiver of 15 years, Jerry Stephenson, were with him holding his hands and loving him as he peacefully left this world on his journey into the heart of God.”

—Lisa Mellinger

Blind Love

My little dog, eyes
now milky with cataracts
stirs in my lap.
She lifts her face
to study mine.
Her head turning, searching
for something and I
am reminded of my blind grandmother,
holding my face
between her rough hands,
turning it to the light,
Then touching my mouth
until I whisper
“I love you, Bubby.”



—Marilyn Wallner

MADRE QUERIDA y HERMOSA

Sylvia M. Gómez

January 27, 1957-February 2, 2021.



Mi madre querida...hasta su último suspiro estaba pensando en su familia. Desde el cielo está protegiendo a todos nosotros. Fuieste y serás la Madre mas bella con un corazón que latió por nuestro Señor Jesu Cristo. Nosotros la extrañamos muchísimo y el amor que nos dio siempre vivirá en nuestros corazones y nuestras memorias. Hasta el Paraíso del Cielo mando un beso y un abrazo fuerte. Te amo mi Reyna

Madre y te extraño mucho.

—Sylvia Aleman & family

Madre hermosa, eras una persona muy especial. Te amo mucho y cada día mi corazón está triste porque yo te extraño mucho. Estas en mi corazón cada día. Tu eres un ángel especial. Y un día yo voy estar contigo y yo tendré muchos abrazos para ti. ¡Te amo madre!

—Tiffany M. Gómez & family

Remembering Cindy Wilmore



CINDY LOU WILMORE will forever be tied to memories of the Esperanza Center’s Peace Market. Throughout the first decade of the Mercado, Cindy made significant folk art contributions to the *Esperanza*. Her love of Mexico took her to many villages and towns where artisans relied on her connections to sell their wares. Early on, *Esperanza* began bringing some of those folk artists to

the annual Peace Market starting with the famous potter, Dolores Parra of Oaxaca in 2002. Although Cindy was not part of *Peace Market* in recent years, she continued her forays into Mexico. In one of her journeys on her way to New Mexico, Cindy stopped in Alpine, Texas coming off the AMTRAK train she was travelling in and stepped into oncoming traffic, only to be struck down by a passing auto. She succumbed to her injuries on April 10, 2019 at the age of 70. We shall always remember Cindy and be grateful for those initial donations made on the evening of Thanksgiving before the *Mercado de Paz* opened—we would pick up the baskets of donations and unpack them with surprise and delight. A passionate international social justice advocate, Cindy Wilmore will long be remembered. ¡Cindy Wilmore, Presente!

—Gloria A. Ramírez

