



Myra Elizabeth Elder

November 7, 1940 - December 21, 2019

Myra Elizabeth Elder, age 79 of San Bernardino, California, passed away unexpectedly on December 21, 2019 in San Bernardino.

Myra was born on November 7, 1940 in Culver City, CA, but her family moved to San Bernardino a couple of years later. After that, she lived her entire life in San Bernardino. Myra had a passion for everything there is to know about San Bernardino; she was always very interested and knowledgeable about the history of the San Bernardino area, as it was always a place she truly loved. She had a true appreciation for the valley and, as a true outdoorsman would, loved having all of the beaches, deserts, and mountains nearby. Over the last 30 years, as many people relocated to other areas, she was never swayed to move away.

Another passion Myra always had was real estate. She was a licensed real estate expert in San Bernardino for 44 years, and she knew the market in this area as well as, or better, than anyone else. She had a true affection for the industry, and she worked tirelessly until her passing. She enjoyed using her wealth of knowledge in the business to help others, and she especially loved helping first time buyers acquire their first home purchase. It was very common for her to reduce her commissions slightly just to help young adults become homeowners.

In some of her other spare time, Myra volunteered for many charitable causes. Most recently, she became a staunch supporter of the San Bernardino County Libraries. She was passionate in helping the local libraries with their services to the community in order to ensure that they would continue being successful.

Myra is survived by her son John (Brigid) Matthews, grandson Clint (Sara) Matthews, granddaughter Laura Matthews and her fiancé Brian Arnold, great grandsons Cole and Cooper Matthews, sisters Joyce Albright and Elaine Simer, brothers David (Medi) Ford, and Dwight (Delia) Ford. Also surviving are her nephew Jeremy (Shelly) Simer, niece Kate (Keith) Kurczeski and their families. Additional survivors include her Aunt Wilma Grout and

cousins Janet, Alan, Carolyn, Eileen and Penny. Sadly, Myra passed away before the birth of her next great grandchild. On Christmas Eve, her granddaughter Laura and her fiance Brian revealed that a new baby girl was on the way in May. Great Grandma Myra would have been so excited with this news. Preceding Myra in death was her husband Tim Elder, her son Jay Matthews, and son Jeff Elder.

Along with family, Myra leaves behind a vast amount of friends and business relationships she developed in her lifetime. Her current group of neighborhood friends, nicknamed by her son as the “Neighborhood Watch On Steroids” (NWOS), has been a tremendous amount of help since Myra’s passing. Our family will always appreciate their love, support, and compassion in this difficult time.

Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Friends of the Rowe Branch Library at 108 E. Marshall Blvd., San Bernardino, CA 92404 in her memory.

Comments



“ In the mid 1980's, when I was about 8 years old, Aunt Myra told me she had a surprise for me. I was to be ready to leave the house around 4pm. With clean feet. Clean feet? Where were we going where I'd need to have clean feet? All day I begged her to tell me but she wouldn't budge. Just smiled coyly, "You'll see." Finally she told me we were going to a fancy new dessert house in San Bernardino where you had to eat with your feet. On our way there, from the back of the car, I watched the city lights go by and wondered if I'd be able to pick up a fork between my toes. Had I scrubbed well enough? When she finally parked the car, we were at a beauty salon and she fessed up - she was taking me to my very first pedicure. Phew! I just loved her sense of humor. The perfect amount of sass and savvy.

She loved Neil Diamond, met Keith Richards, partied with Waylon Jennings, volunteered for the local organizations she cared about and dearly loved her family, friends and neighbors. I admired and respected her. We talked on for phone for at least an hour every week, catching up on every last detail. We talked about our gardens, traded recipes, supported each other with our worries and celebrated the little things that brought us joy. My husband and I, along with our son Fritz, planned to visit her next month from our home in Portland, OR. I'll miss her presence in my life so much. The way she would wrap up a conversation with, "Well, good enough" or describe a cashmere sweater as "yummy". I'll miss how she would always leave her phone number on my voicemail every time she called as if I didn't already know it.

When my father passed away a few years ago, she gave me a piece of advice I'll always remember - "We were so lucky to have known him". At a time of loss, she reminded me to focus on being grateful for the time we had. It brought me peace then, as it does now. But I miss her. She was a supportive, grounding presence in my life, who served it straight up. Just like her little evening vodka cocktail.

I love you, Auntie.



Kate Simer - January 07, 2020 at 02:20 AM



“ My sister Myra was a force to be reckoned with. As young woman, she had it all — beauty, brains, and a vivacious personality. These attributes served her well as she embarked on her real estate career. After her children were grown and gone, she devoted herself to finding just the right home for her clients. Her passion for her San Bernardino community was ever evident. Busy as she was, she always found time to help her friends and neighbors. Her presence will be deeply missed.

Elaine Simer

Elaine Simer - January 05, 2020 at 02:11 PM



“ Such a lovely lady. I knew her through her real estate career. She will be sorely missed in our community. Rest In Peace Myra.

Diane Garza - January 03, 2020 at 10:43 AM



“ Myra was quite a spitfire in the neighborhood and I always appreciated everything she did for the neighborhood watch in the area. I am sorry for your loss may she Rest In Peace.

Kim - January 05, 2020 at 03:25 PM



“ Although Myra and I graduated from SBHS in 1958, I didn't get to know her until after our 50th reunion when a group of us met for lunch in San Bernardino. Even though we lived in different cities, we would try to have lunch as often as we could and would try to call each other every couple of months to catch up. I was amazed how involved she was in the betterment of S.Bdno and in her real estate business. She used to tell me she had no time to be bored. She was fun to be around and we laughed all through our lunches. She cared so much about her friends and family. I was shocked to hear about her passing. One thing good about this is that she is with her husband and sons now - and I'm sure she is laughing it up and having a wonderful time. Hope to see you again someday! Your friend, Pat Lambert Dixon.

Patricia Dixon - February 23, 2020 at 04:26 PM



“ i knew Myra for most of the last 40 years. i had a stroke a couple of years before she died and was unable to look in on her. she was very special and she will be very missed by me. Rest now, my friend, love, ken klosson

ken klosson - October 15, 2020 at 07:33 PM