



## Donna M. Anders

August 18, 1942 - August 9, 2022

Donna Marie Anders broke free of Parkinson's and dementia in the early morning of Tuesday, August 9th, 2022, at Marshfield Medical Center-Dickinson in Iron Mountain.

Donna was born to the late John and Margaret (Richard) Anders on August 18th, 1942, in Houghton, Michigan, the oldest of six children. The family moved to and ran a dairy farm near her dad's brothers in Nadeau, where Donna and her brother Robert had many daily farming chores. Her family then moved to Iron Mountain in 1958 and Donna graduated from IMHS in 1960.

She moved to Milwaukee, waitressing at Nino's where she met and befriended many celebrities such as Tommy Tune and Michael Learned. She fell in love with William McCloud...a singer playing lead guitar with the Bill Black Combo in Milwaukee. He had a voice like Elvis, a towering frame, and for her it was love at first sight. This loving relationship brought Donna her only child, a daughter.

Donna lived in Long Beach, Los Angeles, and then in San Francisco with brother Robert. She enlisted in the United States Army, serving in classified communications. She was stationed in many different locations, but most fondly remembered Germany. When on leave, Donna traveled Europe absorbing culture, museums, and beautiful scenery. She then joined the

National Guard and moved back to the Upper Peninsula in 1980.

She went on to use her GI Bill, studying at Lake Superior State University, Bay De Noc College, and finally Northern Michigan University in Marquette Michigan.

She fell in love with Marquette's beauty and vibrant community, living there over 20 years. She was, by day, a talented waitress, and, by night, a community theater buff and avid dance student at Dawn Dot.

Parkinson's began its hold slowly, and Donna moved to Iron Mountain to be closer to family. Her final 2 1/2 years were in Norway with her daughter and son-in-law, overlooking wildlife filled fields and hills, a pond with mallards and hooded mergansers, neighbor's horses, and birds frequenting a feeder outside her window.

Donna lived a full and adventurous life...including an archeological dig and whitewater rafting in Colorado. She was a voracious reader, avid Tigers fan, had an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, and taught her daughter the joy of music, Broadway show tunes, and Hollywood's Golden era classic movies. She adored Barbra Streisand, Neil Diamond, Cary Grant and Katherine Hepburn. She had beautiful blue eyes, a velvet singing voice, and a witty, dry sense of humor. We in the family like to call it our "Anders sarcasm."

Donna is survived by her daughter, Tina (Kevin) Pirlot of Norway; granddaughter, Jessica (Bob Erspamer) Anders of Ishpeming; grandson, Bryce (Katherine Wong) Anders-Peterson of Seattle; brothers, Robert Anders, Dennis (Mary) Anders, and Paul Anders; sister-in-law, Amy Anders; nephews, Mike (Lindsay) Anders and Aaron (Olivia) Anders; a niece, Cortney Anders; dear friend, Belinda Burke; step-grandchildren, Megan Scot, Kyle (Breanne) Pirlot and Erika (Dale) Clements; many beloved cousins; and grand dogs Izzy and Bran.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents Margaret and John; a brother, Richard Anders; a sister and brother-in-law, Barbara and John Gump; sister-in-law, Dinorah Anders; and son-in-law, Bennett Jon Peterson.

Visitation will be held from 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm on her birthday Thursday, August 18th at Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. An informal service, remembrance, and celebration of life will be from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm, followed by military honors at the funeral home. Donna will then be laid to rest at Cemetery Park, alongside her parents. The service will be live-streamed at <https://youtu.be/yATwPKvIWP4>.

The family wishes to extend gratitude and thanks to Arms of Angels and the Oscar G Johnson Veterans Hospital for their compassionate care of Donna. We also are grateful to Belinda Burke for her loving care, ability to make mom laugh, and family friendship.

Condolences to the family of Donna Anders may be expressed online at [www.ernashfuneralhomes.com](http://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com).

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

# Cemetery Details

## Cemetery Park

Cedar Ave  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 18. 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home  
901 Carpenter Ave.  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801

## Celebration of Life

AUG 18. 1:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home  
901 Carpenter Avenue  
Iron Mountain, MI 49801  
(906) 774-7676  
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com  
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Blue Caribbean Bouquet was purchased for the family of Donna M. Anders.*



August 17, 2022 at 10:16 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Donna M. Anders.*



August 15, 2022 at 11:05 AM



“ *Donna was a wonderful friend and client. I enjoyed her quick wit and fun conversations during our many phases of hair design. Being both female veterans, we had a bit in common. We had fun with my teasing her about her resemblance to Barbara Streisand. My most heartfelt condolences to the people who love her. ❤️🙏❤️  
Respectfully, Jill Marie Weingarten*

**Jill Marie Weingarten** - August 13, 2022 at 08:57 PM



*Jill, thank you so much for your remembrance and friendship to my mom. I do remember her talking about you for years...she liked you so much. ❤️ The movie "The Mirror has Two Faces," mom was a ringer for Barbra Streisand...especially adding in the baseball. Thank you so much for your kindness to mom. It means the world. ❤️  
Tina*

**Tina M Pirlot** - August 13, 2022 at 09:19 PM

DD

“ Donna was a lovely lady with lots of energy and enthusiasm for any dance step or lesson. Her solo, “You Make Me Feel So Young”, was so fitting! Donna will be dearly missed! Dawn Dott

Dawn Matie Dott - August 13, 2022 at 03:40 PM

TP

Dawn, thank you so much. It would mean the world to her that you wrote this. Her treasured shirt is the white long sleeve shirt signed by dance classmates, you...and another dancer. Your classes and the recitals were her complete happiness. It pained her deeply when she started losing her balance. A song at her service will be "I hope you dance"...she'd always said that song meant so much to her. Your leaving such a wonderful remembrance means the world Dawn. Thank you so much ❤️  
Tina

Tina M Pirlot - August 13, 2022 at 09:28 PM

DD

Dear Tina, my husband and I were talking about your mom. We hadn't seen her in such a long time. She is with the Lord, a comforting thought after hearing what she had been going through. Glad I made this little connection with you. This means a great deal to me, too!❤️

Dawn Matie Dott - August 15, 2022 at 08:18 PM

TP

Dawn, thank you so very much. At her service, I'll be honored to share her love of your classes, fellow students, and the recitals. It broke her heart to stop. You gave her so much joy ❤️

Tina M Pirlot - August 16, 2022 at 05:40 PM

TP

“ Mom, I miss you ❤️❤️



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**Tina Pirlot** - August 11, 2022 at 02:55 PM

RG

*Tina and family,  
I am so sorry for your loss. Your mother lived a beautiful full life. To  
whomever wrote the obituary it was absolutely beautiful ❤️*

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**Rose (Alexander) Grailer** - August 13, 2022 at 08:00 AM

TP

*Thank you so very much ❤️*

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**Tina M Pirlot** - August 13, 2022 at 11:13 AM