



René Marie Kaldunski

June 20, 1951 - February 22, 2021

Rene respected the mystery of life: Engaging everyone in a dialog that always centered around others. She was a natural conversationalist, astute listener and loved to get a good story. Rene had an innate curiosity about the arts, food, and curating an individual style. She loved researching restaurants and pastry shops, and developed an encyclopedic memory of every detail.

Rene grew up in Albany, California with her parents Gene and Holly Kaldunski and cultivated a wicked sense of humor with her four younger siblings: Shelley, Mark (children: Brian, Rebecca and Sarah), Karen (Vernon, children: Lia and Maya) and Scott. Rene attended School of the Madeleine and Presentation High School in Berkeley and Laney College in Oakland.

Rene met Rich Valentine in 1971, they were both social workers in San Francisco. Three years later they married, moved to Donner Lake, and spent the following eighteen years traveling and establishing Truckee as their home. Rene and Rich had two children: Max and Annie. Rene and Rich treasured raising their children, never hesitating to open their home to friends. Her fondest times were created with her family, girlfriends, pets, and sisters.

Rene was living with pancreatic cancer and heart issues over the last 12 years. She was very appreciative to her competent and kind medical teams that helped her through the times. At the age of 69, she was at peace with her

end.

We are all grateful for the extra time we were able to spend with Rene.

There will be no service. In lieu of flowers or gifts, donations can be sent to Tahoe Forest Hospital Foundation, KidZone Museum, your favorite charity or any way you would like to pay it forward.

Tribute Wall

SS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Stratos Spheros - January 12, 2025 at 09:29 PM

SR

“ *Rene' is now "Safely Home."*

Thank you, Rene for sharing all your love while on this earth with your wonderful family and friends.

Prayers of healing love and peace dear Rich, Max, and Annie.

pets

Sonya Retzlaff-Huggins and Family

Sonya M. Retzlaff-Huggins - August 25, 2021 at 12:46 AM

BL

“ Beautiful, sweet, peaceful, generous, thoughtful, kind & gentle, artistic, music & nature lover, mischievous sparkle in her eye, trusted friend, loved her family & life, private & humble & intelligent. She had the most soothing tone to her voice, that always made me feel good & safe & calm.....these are just a few things that come to mind. Happy memories of long walks & talks & a surprise Al Jarreau concert. 💜
She indeed respected & savored the mystery of life & left this world better than she found it. Thank you sweet friend.
My heart goes out to you Rich, Max, Annie, Shelly & all her loved ones. Sending you all the love, prayers & hugs.
Blanca, Jack & Lesley Lighthiser



Blanca Lighthiser - March 11, 2021 at 06:38 PM

JM

“ Some trails are happy ones, others are blue!
"Happy Trails to you and Rene until you meet again"
Keep smiling until then!
Love to you and your family
Jeanie / Rob

Jeanie McCarthy - March 09, 2021 at 02:57 PM

SK

“ 18 files added to the album Memories Album



shelley kaldunski - March 07, 2021 at 10:47 PM

CP

“ Rich, Max, Annie & Family,
We're very sorry that Rene has passed. She was a bright ray of sunshine in our neighborhood and will be missed. We'll especially remember her warm smile and friendly greetings. We hope that all of your wonderful memories will sustain you through your grief.
Love, Ted & Carol

Carol & Ted Pintarelli - March 06, 2021 at 03:36 PM

CB

“ Chloe Borders lit a candle in memory of René Marie Kaldunski



Chloe Borders - March 05, 2021 at 11:42 PM

JH

“ 3 files added to the album Memories Album



Jeff Hodgins - March 05, 2021 at 02:37 PM

RV

“ 20 files added to the tribute wall



rich valentine - March 05, 2021 at 10:05 AM

VI

Rich, Max, and Annie: I am so sad to hear about Rene. I can hear the sound of her voice in my head as I write this. She was an incredible woman in every way. My condolences to you and your family. May Rene's memory be a blessing. Love, Vicki Isacowitz

Vicki Isacowitz - March 08, 2021 at 10:47 AM

BF

“ We are incredibly sad to learn of Rene's passing and send our love and condolences to all of the Valentines and Kaldunskis. May the incredible sadness and sorrow living in your hearts today be soon replaced by only the joy and happiness that your memories of Rene's love and the fun times that you spent together can bring. May you each soon find peace.

Bob, Kathy, Allison & Spencer French - March 04, 2021 at 06:38 PM

BF

This post had Kathy's name in it as well. I am not sure why it was omitted. But, she certainly is joined in this post as well.

Bob, Kathy, Allison & Spencer French - March 04, 2021 at 06:40 PM

KH

“ Rich, Max, and Annie,
We are saddened to hear our lovely neighbor, Rene who ALWAYS had a friendly word and a big smile has passed. There is so much to remember over the many years we have been neighbors. She will surely be missed. And...we LOVE her Yellow front door.
Our deepest sympathies...take care...Love, Chendo and Kathy

Kathleen Hernandez - March 03, 2021 at 08:05 PM

GR

“ Dear Shelley, Mark, Karen, and Scott, So sorry to hear about Rene's passing. My thoughts and Prayers are with you. Hoping that the good memories will ease your loss.
Love, Gwen Rikeman (Scheving)



Gwen Rikeman - March 02, 2021 at 12:29 AM

RO

“ I was stunned on hearing this sad news on the passing of fellow classmate, René and I am deeply saddened. □ Always smiling, and a joy to be around. I would like to convey my sincerest condolences to her family on this tragic loss. May she Rest in Peace. 🙏



~Roxy Miravalle
PHS Class of 1969

Roxy - March 01, 2021 at 11:40 PM

BO

“ May René’s love, light, laughter, sparkle and zeal for life continue in all who had the good fortune of being in her presence.



bonnie - February 28, 2021 at 01:11 PM

PB

“ My love goes to you all. The community is heartbroken for you 🕊️

Peggy and Rich Boelk - February 27, 2021 at 06:18 PM

TM

“ My heart goes out the Valentine family . God bless all of you . 🙏❤️

Teresa Martinez - February 24, 2021 at 05:21 PM