



Lovern Mae Roxby Bender

September 16, 2017

Lovern Mae (Roxby) Bender, age 79, died on Saturday, September 16, 2017 in Salisbury, North Carolina. She was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania to John Henry and Agnes (Kutz) Roxby and was the younger of two daughters. She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister Shirley.

Lovern was known for her strength, wisdom, and wit. As a young divorcee, she successfully navigated the struggles of daily life. At a time when it was nearly impossible for a young, single mother to rent an apartment or even acquire a personal telephone, she was able to raise two children and find success in bank management.

A staunch, life-long democrat, Lovorn was committed to the needs of the less fortunate and underserved in her community. She dedicated her time to socially progressive causes, including LGBTQ rights and gender equality, addiction and mental health awareness, homelessness, special education, and racism, among many others. She enjoyed seeing the progress that women made during her lifetime as they came closer and closer to breaking the ultimate glass ceiling. At election time, she even knocked on doors to encourage people to vote.

In addition to the causes that she championed, Lovorn was an animal lover. She was also proud of her Russian heritage and loved sharing this culture

through her cooking. She was an avid crafter. She enjoyed knitting, crocheting, making jewelry, basket weaving, rug making, and quilting. She was a selfless teacher, regularly sharing her crafting skills with her community at the Ruffy-Holmes Senior Center. When she wasn't playing pinochle or socializing with friends, she enjoyed spending time at the family summer home in Oak Island, North Carolina.

Lovern is survived by her yorkie and best girlfriend, Bitzie; her daughter Lisa (Gorman) Bogdon and David Bogdon of Salisbury, North Carolina; son John Gorman, his girlfriend Lahni Russell, and Lahni's daughter Kasey Kirk of West Milford, New Jersey; grandson Rory Bogdon and his wife Julie McGeorge of Baltimore, Maryland; grandson Travis Bogdon of Richmond, Virginia; and granddaughter Nadine Bogdon and her boyfriend Ryan Dunn, of Salisbury, North Carolina.

The family requests that any donations be made to the Special Education Department at Carol T. Overton Elementary School, 1825 Park Road, W, Salisbury, North Carolina 28144.

Summersett Funeral Home is serving the Bender family. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

FD

“ We did so enjoy having your mother in our class. She did some quite extraordinary drawings. She also made me a pine needle basket which is in a cat proof place. Please accept our deepest sympathy. Frances Driscoll

Frances Driscoll - September 19, 2017 at 05:01 PM

JD

“ So sorry to hear about the loss of your mother. Hoping she enjoyed living with her family.

Jennifer and Don Doering

Jennifer Doering - September 19, 2017 at 01:41 PM

VP

“ Lisa and David and family: we were saddened to hear of your loss. Although we did not get to know your mother well, she was always kind and friendly to us when we saw her on her porch or out on the sidewalk, even though it was clear that she was physically struggling! It sounds like she was an incredible person with compassion and strength for all. We regret not getting to know her better.

Peace and blessings to your family,

Vince Pastore and Debra Hubbard Pastore

Vince Pastore - September 19, 2017 at 08:09 AM

JF

“ We are going to miss her at our Creative Needles class Rufty Holmes Senior Center. She made our mornings such fun. She was willing to share her talent and ideas with all of us. She is leaving a huge hole that no one will be able to fill.
Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.



Joanne French - September 18, 2017 at 08:35 PM

DT

“ So sorry, Lisa and family. I knew her but for a short time, but felt an immediate connection. Such a sweet and funny lady. Hugs and prayers.

Dee Thompson

Dee Thompson - September 18, 2017 at 06:55 PM