

# Remembrances



## WHEN I DIE

By Merrit Malloy

When I die

If you need to weep

Cry for someone walking the street beside you

And when you need me put your arms around others

And give them what you need from me.

You can love me most by letting hands touch hands

And souls touch souls

You can love me most by sharing your joys

Multiplying your good deeds.

You can love me most by letting me live in your eyes

And not in your mind.

And when you say Kaddish for me

Remember what our Torah teaches:

Love doesn't die,

People do

So when all that's left of me is Love

Give me away

# Remembrances



**Barbara Blomgren**



Longtime fellowship member Barbara Blomgren passed away suddenly in August 2021 from injuries suffered in an accidental fall. She is survived by her three children and their families and a diverse group of friends both lifelong and more recent. Her first visits to the Fellowship were in

the early 70s but her involvement really blossomed in the last two decades.

Barbara was born in New Jersey but raised in Maryland and later lived in Rochester New York before making the cross country trek to San Diego in 1970. In addition to raising her 3 children, she had a long two-part career

working at UC San Diego - the first half was spent working in the department of Psychiatry at the School of Medicine as an editor polishing countless research papers, journal articles and books for the faculty. She then shifted gears and took a leap of faith, successfully applying for a management trainee fellowship opportunity in a newly created undergraduate college on the main campus (5th college, now named Eleanor Roosevelt College). She ended up as the lead administrator of the college, working for a series of Provosts and Deans over 15 years. The increased engagement with the student population and wide variety of responsibilities gave her great satisfaction. The beige buildings visible on North Torrey Pines road and the broad, inclusive educational themes of ERC are a lasting testament to her efforts as part of the team that brought the new college to life.

On retirement in 2004 she became very active in the campus retirement association for a number of years, and she brought that same enthusiasm to UUFSD where she was instrumental in the conception, construction and ongoing maintenance of the Memorial Walls - her own plaque can now be found on the Bird mural. She was also engaged with parent support groups at the Fellowship, the book table and library, and made many good friends in the congregation. As a woman of letters, she was both a voracious reader and a skilled and prolific wordsmith, as any who corresponded with her or worked with her on projects would quickly learn. She had been inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa academic honor society after completing her degree at Bucknell University in 1957 and remained dedicated to the support of the UCSD chapter of that national organization throughout her career and retirement.

Barbara was also quietly but diligently philanthropic throughout her life, donating regularly and generously to many organizations in support of the health and welfare of others and the environment, as well as quietly yet vigorously championing human rights and social justice. She was a loyal friend to many and a dedicated parent and grandparent, and will be greatly missed. Her family appreciates all the kind words and support the congregation has extended.

Conditions permitting, a celebration of life will take place at some future date, meanwhile If you have not yet expressed condolences or shared memories and would like to, you can reach out to the Blomgren family % 5934 Seacrest View Road, San Diego 92121 or via [wblomgren@gmail.com](mailto:wblomgren@gmail.com)

More generally, her family simply asks that you remember her well, sharing recollections of her with each other from time to time as you support one another on your own journeys, knowing that she thought so highly of you all and wished you all the best with unwavering sincerity. Her family is so grateful for the significant role UUFSD played in her life, giving her boundless support and purpose.

---

---



Ashley E. Phillips: August 18 1954 - January 10 2022

Ashley Phillips passed away on January 10, 2022. She is survived by her daughter Emerson Shubert who lives in Washington state. Ashley was a beloved professor at SDSU who influenced many students. She was 67 years old.

### **Ashley Philips**

Ashley was approaching her 10 year anniversary of membership here at the Fellowship. She was an active member of the Fellowship and served on the Board as Vice President. Ashley also led a successful SMART recovery group on campus. We hold Ashley's spirit in our hearts.

A virtual memorial service was held for Ashley on Sunday, February 13. Prof. Emerita Kathleen B. Jones, SDSU, Department of Women's Studies and others spoke at the memorial service. Ashley was a long-time lecturer in Women's Studies at SDSU, she taught women's sexuality and women's health in the department for many years and helped launch the women's studies scholarship fund by bringing Gloria Steinem, Bella Abzug, and other feminist activists to campus.

She was an outstanding teacher, inspiring hundreds of students to engage in women's rights and social justice projects in the community. She modeled that engagement through her work as Executive Director of Woman-care, serving women's reproductive health needs in the San Diego area, and later, by helping build a more inclusive community through education and advocacy as Executive Director of the San Diego office of the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Ashley Phillips was also a guiding light in the local substance-use-disorder recovery community. She always offered an understanding, trained, compassionate helping hand and listening ear to those in recovery as well as to distressed family members who themselves play key roles in the family structure of addiction. At the age of 30 she became the courageous director of Women's Care where she mentored staff and volunteers. She even wore a bullet proof vest around aggressors while escorting women seeking abortion.

Never one to show off her many credentials, Ashley taught Women's Studies at San Diego State University and was an influential mentor to many students and faculty. Colleagues and students her as kind, an excellent teacher, and a rare and beautiful spirit.

More recently, Ashley became a facilitator for SMART Recovery (Self Management and Recovery Training) which teaches that people do have the power to manage their relationship to substances. She started a SMART meeting at the UU fellowship and served on SMART's local board of directors. She also started a needed program for family members of people struggling with substance-use-disorder and mentored new facilitators. She had a business as a sought-after personal coach and helped many people with addiction go on to lead productive, meaningful, well-organized lives. Ashley has given so much of herself during her life's journey and her many thoughtful lessons continue to help many people find answers. All the lessons she herself learned from her own depression she turned into teachable lessons for others to grow from. We celebrate Ashley's life and are grateful for her leadership and love of community.



**UUFSD MEMORIAL WALL**