



Ann Elizabeth Duval

August 21, 2020

Ann Elizabeth Duval, 65, of Lancaster, died at Hospice and Community Care on Friday, August 21, 2020, after a brief illness. Born in Elkhart, IN, she was the daughter of the Beatrice A. (Frey) and the late Jacob B. Shenk.

Ann was truly a citizen of the world. In addition to traveling worldwide, she spent time living in London, Port-au-Prince, New York City, Chicago, Atlanta and Washington DC. She was an impassioned and determined advocate for social justice and made the world a better place in countless ways. Through both her career and volunteer work, she positively impacted the lives of people around the world and in her final hometown of Lancaster, PA. When she turned her attention to an issue or problem to be solved, she was a force to be reckoned with. Her organizational skills, keen intellect and deep curiosity about the world were evident in all she did. Even as she adjusted her expectations at the premature end of her life, these characteristics were on full display. She was unabashedly proud of her family, finding many ways of letting them know how much she loved them.

As a teenager, Ann spent several years living abroad with her family. The year they spent in Haiti was especially formative for Ann. Several years after college, she returned to Haiti and married her high school sweetheart, Edouard Duval. She lived and worked there for 7 years. Although the marriage ended, their friendship endured. During her time in Haiti, she worked

extensively with a micro- finance program for women, Fonds Haitien D'Aide a la Femme (FHAF). She eventually left Haiti to take a job as the vice president of Women's World Banking in New York City. This began many years of work in international development, specifically in micro-finance.

Ann's work as a micro-finance consultant and then for CARE, took her all over the world, but she worked most extensively in Francophone West Africa and in Bosnia. Her work in Bosnia was especially rewarding for her. She was recently flown back to Bosnia to help celebrate an anniversary of the program she helped establish there and to honor her role in its success. She even authored a book for young readers set in Bosnia shortly after the end of the war, in which she explored the lasting impacts of the ethnic conflict on the people of Bosnia through the eyes of a young American girl travelling to Bosnia with her aunt. Although it was never published, she very much enjoyed the process of writing it. She was also a talented artist and craftsperson.

Ann moved to Lancaster in the mid 90's to be closer to family. It didn't take long for her to become involved in local social justice issues. She was on the board of directors for the YWCA and served as a mentor to a number of women in various capacities. Ann was a co-founder and organizer of the annual "Woman to Women: A Day for Creativity and Exploration" event, bringing together women from throughout the area for a day of workshops to celebrate the power and diversity of women. This event and the work to organize it, also resulted in many deep friendships with dynamic women in the Lancaster area for Ann. Through her travels and work, she made lifelong friends in far flung places. One of her lasting legacies was forming a network of incredibly talented and interesting people, especially women. She took great joy in introducing old friends and family to new friends, continually expanding this network beyond herself. She loved entertaining guests and an evening of food and drink at Ann's was truly an event to savor.

In addition to her mother Betty, she is survived by her siblings, Jeff (Angela Cardaci-Shenk) of Lancaster and Sara Shenk (Bronwyn Evans) Ithaca, New York; her nieces and nephew, Tara Donnelly, James Donnelly and Kelly Shenk; her great-nieces, Dejuanah Collymore and Ahlayna Artis. She will also be missed by her large, loving extended family.

A celebration of Ann's life will be held when it is once again safe to gather in person.

Memorial contributions may be made to:

YWCA Lancaster

110 N. Lime Street

Lancaster, PA 17602

OR

Chestnut Housing Corporation

432 East Chestnut Street

Lancaster 17602

Tribute Wall

PH

“ I am very sorry to learn of Ann's passing. I just saw it in the GC Bulletin. My condolences to all of you.

Phyllis Krabill



phyllis - June 18, 2021 at 11:56 AM

JF

“ Sending love and hugs to you all, Jeff, Sara, Betty and friends. The world lost an amazing woman! Ann and I went through great growth and transition together while living in Haiti. We developed a powerful bond that meant the world to me! I remember so well visiting her in Goshen and I still make the gazpacho she served! And Jeff and I spent the evening swimming in the Quarry. I have fond memories of visiting Ann in DC just prior to her marriage and move to Haiti. What a great shopping spree in Georgetown. Later I visited Ann in NYC and was thrilled she let me wear her amazing mink coat as we buzzed around town. She always exuded enthusiasm, fun, worldliness and a passion for whatever she did! I loved Ann dearly and learned much from her! I'm so grateful for our friendship and know our bond will live on forever! Till we meet again Ann! And a toast to our future heavenly adventures!
Always, Jan

Jan Falcey - September 27, 2020 at 07:23 PM

MP

“Ann was such a valuable member of the YWCA Board of Directors when I was CEO there. I looked forward to the Woman to Woman event that she helped create and organize, which captured the spirit of the YWCA perfectly. She was insightful, generous with her time and talents, humorous, and unflappable. On a personal level, she helped me pick out colors for the interior of my house, helped me hang pictures after the painting was done, and reorganized two rooms. Everywhere I look I see her touches, and am ever reminded of her generous spirit. Lancaster is the worse for losing her too soon.

Maureen Powers - September 14, 2020 at 03:15 PM

MA

“Dearest Ann,
The world is made poorer by your absence. Those whose lives you touched, like me, will never forget your kindness, your intelligence, your wit and your passion for justice. Most of all, we will never forget the twinkle in your eye and your adorable smile. Go into the light, my wonderful, darling friend. Go twinkle for the angels!
Marilyn

Marilyn Allien - September 12, 2020 at 10:14 PM