



Marellyn Ann (Danner) Panos

JAN 27, 1937 - APR 6, 2012



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Marellyn Panos was born “Marellyn Ann Danner” on January 27th, 1937, to Ralph Ebbert and Anna Marie (Peters) Danner, in Cedar Falls, IA. Marellyn was the youngest of nine children, preceded by five brothers and three sisters. Early in Marellyn’s life, after brief residency in Cedar Falls and Tama, her family moved to Marshalltown, IA, which became the family’s permanent home. At age 12, while in school, Marellyn met lifelong friend, Dorothy (Large) Thompson. At age 17, Marellyn was attending high school and working part-time as a waitress at “Fort Hopkins,” a local diner. The restaurant owner’s daughter soon tipped off Marellyn that the phone company was hiring Operators, and urged her to apply. She did, and the rest, as they say, is history. After a brief time working for Bell on a high school vocational program, Marellyn was hired by Bell full-time, as a cord-board Operator, upon her graduation. While working at Northwestern Bell, Marellyn met two lifelong friends, Joan (Kasel) Kellogg and Kathy Gilchrist. In the late 1950’s, Marellyn and Kathy decided to take a vacation and drive from Iowa to San Diego, CA to visit Marellyn’s brother, Buck Danner and his family, who had moved to San Diego a few years before. Marellyn fell in love with San Diego on sight, and soon made plans to transfer to Pacific Bell and make San Diego her new home. Once at Pacific Bell, Marellyn met two more lifelong friends, Audrey Paulson and Connie Lee. Connie and her husband, Donald, soon introduced Marellyn to her future husband, Nick Panos. Nick and Marellyn were married on August 27th, 1960. and on August 23rd, 1961, oldest daughter, Anna Marie, was born. When Anna was four, she asked her mother all about brothers and sisters, and requested a new baby brother or baby sister for herself. Marellyn replied that only God could fulfill that request. So, Anna quickly added that to her daily bedtime prayers and, three years later, on September 5th, 1968, Nick and Marellyn’s second daughter, Athena Marel, was born. Marellyn would later remark that it truly was “Labor Day” in every sense of the word. In 1970,



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Nick and Marellyn divorced, and Marellyn and her daughters moved back to Marshalltown, IA to be with Marellyn's family. In 1980, a few years after the 1974 filing for the Bell System divestiture, the Marshalltown branch of the phone company closed. Marellyn was faced with a choice of transferring to Des Moines, IA, Omaha, NE, or taking her severance from Northwestern Bell and faring out on her own. She opted to take her severance pay, and Marellyn and her daughters moved back to San Diego, CA for good. Once back in San Diego, Marellyn hired back on to Pacific Bell and bridged her service. She continued to work as an Operator after the cord boards were replaced by computers and became a "TSPS" Operator. She worked at a few offices in town before settling into her permanent, and final home on Arizona Street, in the North Park district of San Diego. While working at Arizona Street office, Marellyn was approached by a retiring co-worker and asked if she would like to acquired her Avon business. Marellyn accepted the offer with gusto, and continued to run her Avon business with love, care, and zeal to this day. Marellyn enjoyed staying active and busy, and in addition to working full-time at the phone company, running her Avon business and being a full-time Mom (never mind that both her daughters were grown up), she also accepted the position of apartment manager at The Castilian Apartments, where she lived. She continued all these activities until she retired at age 58, with over 41 years of service to her credit, with Bell Telephone Company. Marellyn continued managing apartments until 1999, when she and her daughters decided to buy a home together. After combining residences, and amidst running a home and continuing Avon, Marellyn heard about The Red Hat Society. She soon convinced her friends and daughters to join some local Red Hat Chapters with her. Marellyn loved her Red Hat Sisters, and "Red Hatting" (going to teas, trips, luncheons, and events) in "full regalia" (all dressed up to the 9's) was one of her favorite pass times. More than the events themselves, Marellyn truly loved the socializing, friendships and meeting new people, more than anything. Marellyn was truly an amazing woman. She was hard-working, loyal, friendly and ethical, and possessed a good, old fashioned "can-do" attitude. Marellyn found something good and valuable in everyone she met. She genuinely enjoyed getting to know her co-workers, customers, tenants, neighbors, and friends. She had



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a big heart, a great laugh, and a wonderful sense of humor. Her sparkling personality will be truly missed on the face of the earth, but we feel she has been welcomed into Heaven with love, laughter, and wide-open arms. Marellyn is preceded in death by her father and mother, Ralph and Anna Danner, her brothers Morris (Mort), Dillon (Dillie), Ralph (Buck), Rolland (Rollie), and John (Jack); and her sisters Mildred (Millie Hanegan), Evelyn (Evie Hood); and Joyce Richerodt; her nephews Dwight, Jody, and John Danner, and Lenard (Lenny) Richerodt; and her niece, Patti Jo (Hanegan) Pullin. Marellyn is survived by her two daughters, Anna (Panos) Covington and Athena Panos.



Tribute Wall

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AP

Athena Panos lit a candle in honor of Marellyn.

April 4 at 9:55 AM



AP

Athena Panos lit a candle in honor of Marellyn.

April 3 at 8:20 PM



AC

Anna Covington posted:

I love you Mom, and I miss you every day.~ Anna

May 3 at 5:00 PM

GP

Greenwood Memorial Park posted:

Anna& Athena,I miss her and our chats on the phone.Her picture is on my dresser so I "see" her every day.

May 2 at 5:00 PM

GP

Greenwood Memorial Park posted:

Anna & Athena: I wrote earlier, but thought I'd add a few more thoughts. I really miss Marellyn . . . she was one in a million. I know she's happy in her new "home on high" and I'm sure she knows how well you girls are going on with your lives. I hope she's pleased that you've restarted her MMM Chapter of RH. She will always live in my memories. – Barbara A.

May 1 at 5:00 PM

AT

Athena posted:

I love you Mom and miss you terribly. You are in my heart forever.xoxoxoxo

April 12 at 5:00 PM



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GB

Gloria (Dominguez) Bobo posted:

Anna & Athena, too many years have passed since we have seen each other please know my prayers are with you both at this time. Your mom was a wonderful lady. I remember coming to your house in HS and she was always so welcoming and I truly loved her smile. I also remember hanging out and the candy making...YUM. Much love and hugs,

April 12 at 5:00 PM

DD

Denise Danner posted:

Anna & Athena, I am so sorry for your and everyone's loss. Even though it has been many, many years, I still remember Aunt Marelynn like it was yesterday. With love from your cousin, Denise Danner

April 11 at 5:00 PM

MP

Maryann Palmore posted:

Anna & Athena May God bless you and your family in this time of sorrow. Maryann Palmore Lady Tuna Choker

April 10 at 5:00 PM

GP

Greenwood Memorial Park posted:

Damon and Daniel Danner, grandsons of Dillon Danner, sons of Damon Danner.

April 10 at 5:00 PM

GP

Greenwood Memorial Park posted:

Anna and Athena, Sorry for yours and our loss. I probably met all of the Danners way long ago. My dad, Dillon, always talked about his brothers and sisters even though I couldn't picture them in my mind. Sincerely, damon e. dannerdamond@calumetclub.com

April 10 at 5:00 PM



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YM

Yvonne Meakin posted:

Athena and Anna, I know I haven't seen you in forever, but know that you're in my prayers. Athena, you were like a sister to me in high school and your mom (Marelynn) was like a second mother to me. She had the best sense of humor and such a contagious laugh. I will remember her fondly, with love and always. – Yvonne

April 8 at 5:00 PM

MW

Marta Wreden posted:

Athena & Anna, I want you to know my thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. I only met your Mom a couple of times but what a wonderful Lady and I know a GREAT MOM. She truly will be missed. God Bless you, Marta

April 8 at 5:00 PM

CS

Cindi Nielsen-Sirrine posted:

Anna and Athena, I have very many fond memories of elementary school through high school visiting your house in Marshalltown where your mom would cook us some awesome food, and we would play upstairs in her closet or sing "Sister Mary Elephant" in Anna's room. She was always happy to see me and welcomed me like her own daughter. I saw her reflected in both of you then as well as now. God Bless you and keep you.

April 8 at 5:00 PM

MM

Madelyn Moydell posted:

Anna and Athena, I am so sorry for the loss of your Mom. She loved you both so much and was proud of you. She had a good life, full of love, and I hope you two will find the strength to live your lives with out her. Peace and Love, Madelyn

April 8 at 5:00 PM

EC

Eva Clark posted:

When she became our Queen" I said how wonderful!...She really ran the club as Jacki's assistant anyway...What a legacy? all were happy to have her be Queen"..I became closer to her then...and will forever be thankful I got to know her better..and feel a great loss at her demise...LOVE, TO YOU TWO GIRLS, EVA

April 8 at 5:00 PM



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DS

Debbie Scarborough posted:

My thoughts and prayers are with you Athena and your sister during this time. Love & Miss you!

April 8 at 5:00 PM

GP

Greenwood Memorial Park posted:

Marelynn was a wonderful, loving lady. . . a very good friend who always looked at the bright side of any situation and could always find a funny, laughable thing to say even when things didn't go as planned. She will be dearly missed by all of us who loved her. Anna & Athena, my thoughts and prayers are with you at this trying time – Barbara Adams

April 7 at 5:00 PM

RS

Ricki & Jeff Scheidle posted:

What can we say about our friend Marelynn? We will miss her smile and friendship. We are sure many remember her great Halloween parties, the cookie parties, and of course she did a great Christmas party. Let there be a holiday and Marelynn and her daughters found a reason to celebrate in style. What we can all do now is celebrate the wonderful person she was. Our love and support to Anna and Athena.

April 7 at 5:00 PM

GP

Greenwood Memorial Park posted:

Marelynn was the best friend a person could have. She was always helpful in any situation and cared a great deal for other people. She had a huge sense of humor which was always a bright spot in any conversation with her. She was the proud mother of two beautiful daughters. She will be greatly missed. Zita

April 7 at 5:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mareilyn by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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