



Genevieve "Leilani" Gibbons Obituary

April 27, 1950 - February 19, 2023 Parma, ID - Genevieve Leilani Gibbons passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family on February 19, 2023, after what she described as "a short, valiant yet useless, battle" against ovarian cancer.

She was born in 1950 to Matthew and Genevieve Gibbons in Vallejo, CA, and graduated from St. Vincent Ferrer High School in 1968. She left Dominican College of San Rafael to pursue a career in nursing. In 1972 she earned her ADN at Solano Community College and became a Registered Nurse. She graduated from Sonoma State University in 1976, earning BSN, PHN and FNP Letter of Completion. In 1978 she earned her RNC. She began her career as a Family Nurse Practitioner in 1977 at Family Doctor Medical Group, Vallejo, CA, until 1989. She continued at Kaiser Permanente from 1989 to 2008.

Leilani met the great love of her life, Tommy Elledge, in 1981. They married in 1983 and welcomed their daughter, Nickolena, in 1984. Known professionally as Gibbons, Leilani retained her maiden name after marriage. In 1989 Tommy and Leilani purchased a ranch in Lincoln, CA, where they began to live out their dreams before moving to Idaho in 2020. They purchased Vintage Carriage Company in 1994 and for 26 years they added magic and

elegance to thousands of weddings and events. In 2021 they relaunched the company in Idaho. She remained an active and devoted member of Carriage Operators of North America from 2003 until her death.

Leilani was deeply spiritual and she suffered no fools. Horses were an early and sustaining passion in her life-long love of animals, and she was a champion gymkhana and dressage equestrian. She sang and played the autoharp. She was an avid reader and stamp collector, she stayed aware of current events, spoke fluent Russian and never stopped learning.

Leilani was preceded in death by her father, Dr. R. Matthew Gibbons, and her mother, Genevieve (Mendonca). She is survived by her devoted husband, Tommy Elledge, daughter, Nickolena Van Tuyl, grandchildren Matthew and Nalani Van Tuyl, her brother Ross M. Gibbons (Raya), sister Lisa Carlson, 9 nieces and nephews, and numerous grandnieces and grandnephews. Leilani was also a mother to dozens of young women and young men who needed a strong, caring and wise woman in their lives.