

# Ann Crawford Isely

February 20, 1958 ~ August 13, 2020 (age 62)

## Tribute

Ann Isely, a resident of Oakland, California, passed away unexpectedly surrounded by family and friends on Thursday August 13th, 2020, following complications from surgery. She was 62.

Ann is predeceased by her husband, Ed Olmstead, her parents John Isely and Helen (Gardner) Pearlstein, and stepfather Donald Pearlstein, mother-in-law Beryl Olmstead and father-in-law Ron Olmstead. She is survived by her loving stepmother Elizabeth Clark, brother Brian Isely (Judy), stepbrothers Neil Pearlstein (LiYann), Eric Pearlstein, sister-in-law Anne Tierney (Neil) and 4 nephews and 3 nieces.

Ann was born in Baltimore, Maryland and spent most of her childhood in San Diego, California where she made many lifelong friends. They enjoyed grueling backpacking trips, music and the outdoors.

Ann led a very courageous life and yet always kept her sense of humor, style and passion for the arts. She had an infectious laugh that would brighten up any room.

After graduating from the University of California San Diego, she received her master's degree of Library and Information Sciences from San Jose State University.

Ann proudly served 27 years of public service as a Librarian in the San Francisco Public Library.

Ann married her soul mate Ed Olmstead in 2001. They had a zeal for life and adventure that took them to the four corners of the earth. She lived life as it was supposed to be lived, always looking ahead to the next adventure and always with a healthy sense of humor. Humor was a staple of Ann and Ed's marriage as was evidenced on their wedding day when they arrived on scooters in formal attire and customized Converse sneakers.

Ann had a passion for stationary and 'snail mail' and enjoyed surprising friends and family with handmade cards. Her cards were often decorated with her own whimsical collages and drawings.

After purchasing their house in Oakland, California, her husband Ed planted a plum tree in her backyard. Plums became Ann's jam. She would make plum dishes that would complement different entrees. She would add plums to salads, sides, and condiments. Her famous Plum Crisp was her trademark. She was the ultimate chef and hostess at her house in Oakland and her annual "plum party" was highly anticipated each year.

Ann loved steamed crabs on the Chesapeake Bay. She had a love of dogs. She was an incredible cook. She was beautiful, smart, and witty. She believed in social justice and equality. She was truly an individual that will be missed in this world.

Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to the NAACP. <https://www.naACP.org/donate>

Source: <https://www.higginsmortuary.com/tributes/Ann-Isely>