



## Carol M. Pretzer

July 9, 1942 - October 11, 2013

Carol Pretzer, 71, passed away unexpectedly Friday in a local hospital following complications from a fall suffered October 6th.

She was born in Madison, Nebraska and has lived in Benicia since 1980. She worked as a Legal Secretary for over 30 years for a number of employers including the Solano County District Attorney, Solano County Courts and the law offices of Dinkelspiel, Donovan & Reder in San Francisco. She retired in 1996.

Carol was a member of the Benicia Lutheran Church and Presidio Yacht Club. She worked as an Avon representative, volunteered for Relay for Life events, as well as for the VFW Auxiliary. She also assisted in her grandson Teddy's autism class at Benicia High School. Carol loved spending time with her family and friends, especially her grandchildren. She will always be remembered for her giving and kind nature, as well as her fun-loving spirit.

Carol is survived by her husband Michael; daughter Anne (Chris) Cardwell; stepdaughter Michelle (Anthony) Kanigowski; stepson Michael Lee Pretzer; sisters Opal Geweke, Mildred Petersen, Leola Luedtke & Delores Blakeman; brother Lester Demmel; and her grandchildren Teddy, Patrick & Atticus Cardwell, Tony & Angela Kanigowski and Rachel & Erica Pretzer.

Memorial services will be held 2:00 p.m., Sunday, October 20th at Benicia Lutheran Church with Rev. Dr. David A. Floyd officiating. Burial will be private. Family prefers donations go to Autism Speaks at [www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org).

# Comments

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“ Carol means a lot to me! I know I was not able to make it to the funeral but I wanted to give a donation in her name to a good cause that she loves. I am going to miss her everyday. I will donate \$25.00 in her honor every year for AutismSpeaks.com. I am truly going to miss you! You always made me feel special and included. I am so sad to see you go

**Ashley Burril** - October 23, 2013 at 03:03 PM

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“ Dear Carol,

Thank you so much for always making me feel welcome as an honorary "Dinkbat". It was a pleasure to know you and be around you. When you walked into a room it always seemed brighter. We will miss you.

Mike and Debra Cole

**Debra Cole** - October 20, 2013 at 02:54 PM

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“ Fun, Fun, Fun...  
My Friend, My Aunt...  
More Than Love To Me -  
Dibbie

**Debbie** - October 20, 2013 at 06:53 AM

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“ 3 files added to the album Carol will be missed. our hearts are broken.



**Spice Burril** - October 18, 2013 at 09:26 PM

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“ Jerry and I married in 2007 and went to San Francisco for our honeymoon. Carol and Michael were unable to attend our wedding...so while we were there, we visited them....I know, on our honeymoon! But I have to tell you, I feel so blessed to have spent time with them. They showed us around their town and took us to lunch. It was such a wonderful afternoon. She was so proud of her family, especially her grandchildren! What a gift to be a part of the family. Carol's smile and laugh remains with me as a memory forever. She had a zest for life.  
Jerry and I send our deepest condolences to the Pretzer family.  
Judy and Jerry Luedtke

**Judy Luedtke** - October 18, 2013 at 02:06 PM

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“ Where ever you are , your wonderful sense of humor will follow. Thank You for the laughs Carol. My condolences to Carol's family and friends. I will miss your smile.  
Morna & Sandy Post 3928

**Morna Calhoun** - October 18, 2013 at 11:53 AM

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“ R.I.P. Dear Carol Thank You for all the times you have made me giggle and laugh. I will deeply miss your happy go lucky smile. My condolences to The Pretzer family.  
Morna Calhoun Post 3928

**Morna Calhoun** - October 18, 2013 at 11:30 AM

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“ Secret Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Carol M. Pretzer.



October 17, 2013 at 09:52 AM

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“ My deepest sympathy to all of Carol's family and friends! I worked with her at Dinkelspiel, Donovan & Reder for 12 years and loved seeing her smiling face every morning. She was one of the Dinkbats, the name we affectionately gave the group of friends that we made at that firm in San Francisco. We kept in touch and saw each other at least twice a year even after the firm split up in 1993. Her summer parties were something we all looked forward to every year! We are all so saddened and shocked. She was such a bright and funny person and it was just so much fun to share her life stories as well as ours with her!

Jeannie McGreevy

Jeannie McGreevy - October 16, 2013 at 06:25 PM

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“ Carol and I were both members of the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW and the Presidio Yacht Club. She was one of the most positive, upbeat and caring woman I've ever met! Earlier this month we were at the VFW together and we were laughing and joking about getting older and she commented, "who cares, we just need to make the most of every day!" WOW, truer words were never spoken. Heaven has a new angel...Carol, you are so loved!  
Nancy Hensley

Nancy Hensley - October 16, 2013 at 04:46 PM

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“ Lee, Mildred, Dee, Marie, Opal & Daryl , Les & Emily purchased the Celestial Love for the family of Carol M. Pretzer.



Lee, Mildred, Dee, Marie, Opal & Daryl , Les & Emily - October 16, 2013 at 03:12 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album Carol will be missed. our hearts are broken.



Pepper Rae - October 16, 2013 at 11:30 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Pepper Rae - October 16, 2013 at 11:20 AM

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“ Teleflora's Garden of Memories was purchased for the family of Carol M. Pretzer.



October 15, 2013 at 08:18 PM

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“ My Aunt Carol was the BEST! All my life I adored her and loved her. Although she lived half way across the country and we did not talk or see each other as much as I would have liked, when we did talk, she came to visit her family in Nebraska, wrote a note or sent a card, it was always something special to me. She always had words of encouragement for me and supported me through some tough times and congratulated me for accomplishments. I will miss her very much, but am comforted in the knowledge that she is with our Lord and Savior in peace with her parents and siblings who have gone before her.

My heart, thoughts and prayers go out to Michael, Anne, Chris, Teddy, Patrick and Atticus.

Tim Luedtke

Lincoln, NE

Tim - October 15, 2013 at 03:07 PM

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“ My deepest sympathy to Carol's family. Tho I only met you once I can say for certain, heaven has gained a new angel. Bonnie Lehamn-Mosemak

Bonnie - October 15, 2013 at 01:59 PM

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“ Carol and I worked together when I was a young mother. Her enthusiastic interest in my daughter and her milestones is one of my fondest memories of those days. I always looked forward to her asking me for another “Tori story”. She had a real talent for making you feel welcomed and loved. She will be in my heart forever.

Linda Rosales - October 15, 2013 at 12:06 PM

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“ I had the pleasure of meeting this bright, fun loving, beautiful smiling woman on a cruise out of Boston 1 year ago this month. We had so much fun! I am very thankful that our paths crossed even though it was for a short time, she left a memory in my heart.  
Prayers of comfort to Michael and family.

Vickie Harris  
Belton, TX



Vickie Harris - October 15, 2013 at 11:33 AM

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“ Carol was like a big sister to me she was always there for me. She loved me unconditionally all the time. Her heart her smile her love of Mike Anne Chris Patrick Teddy and Atticus never wavered they were her life. A few weeks ago she told me she was the luckiest woman in the world. You will be missed more than words can express. We love you  
Penny and Bob

Penny Stell - October 15, 2013 at 12:52 AM

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“ 1 file added to the album Let us remember Carols great smile and the giving she shared with all of us. Carol will be missed.



Patty le Lievre-Childs - October 14, 2013 at 09:22 PM

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“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



**Patty Le Lievre-Childs** - October 14, 2013 at 09:11 PM

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“ I am blessed to have had an aunt like Carol. She was so fun-loving and so spontaneous, always making time for her nieces and nephews. I couldn't wait to go and visit her or to have her visit our home. She was raised in such a strong Christian family, and I am sure she is celebrating that victory in heaven with her mom, dad, siblings, and friends who have gone before her. May God give peace and joy to Michael, Anne, Chris, Teddy, Patrick, Atticus, and all of her other friends and family members during these days of bittersweet memories!

Jeff, Cheryl, Megan, Josh, and Emily Ehlers (Phoenix, AZ)  
Rev 7:9-12 (Love this picture of heaven!)

**Cheryl Ehlers** - October 14, 2013 at 07:53 PM

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“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



**Dena stults** - October 14, 2013 at 07:41 PM



“ She charmed everyone she met, I will miss her <3

**Dena Stults** - October 18, 2013 at 12:24 PM

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“ Anne and Michael, I'm so, so sorry. I know how much you miss her and how your hearts are aching. I'm sure she is with God. I will always remember all the laughs we had in the old days in the DA's office.

Laurel

Laurel - October 14, 2013 at 07:35 PM

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“ Laurel sent a virtual gift in memory of Carol M. Pretzer



Laurel - October 14, 2013 at 07:32 PM

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“ Carol was a great Sister in law and we ad many good times. It was always great when Carol and Mike would come down to San Diego and get together for dinner and a few drinks. She will always be in our hearts and memories that no one can take away. Carol I know you are in a better place and you are not suffering anymore. RIP my dear.  
Larry Lehman

Larry Lehman - October 14, 2013 at 06:58 PM

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“ Michael, Annie and Family: Words cannot express my deep sadness over these last few days. I was so in hope Carol would heal from her injuries and return home. I cannot wrap my brain around her leaving us so suddenly. I knew Carol for probably about 30 or more years - never as close as some of her other friends, but always fond of her and interested in her life. She was a fun loving spirit. We just had lunch not even a month ago, as we have done over the last several years, with some of her other good, long time friends. Carol gave me a big hug when I left. Little did I realize it would be my last hug from Carol. For what it is worth, she seemed happy that day, having just returned from a trip to San Diego or thereabouts. She spoke fondly of her time spent in her grandson's class and of the advances she felt he was making. If possible, I want to attend Carol's service - even though it will be difficult. I don't lose friends (or family) easily; it hurts too much. None of us know when our time here is over, and none of us expected to lose our dear friend so quickly. All we can do now is keep her memory alive.

**Patricia Tubbs** - October 14, 2013 at 06:23 PM