



## Lowell Craig Dalton

April 3, 1944 - March 13, 2024

Lowell Dalton passed away peacefully at home on March 13th after a three year battle with cancer. Lowell showed courage and a positive, hopeful outlook in the face of his health challenges right up to the end.

Lowell was born in Teaneck, New Jersey in 1944 and moved to Southern California early in life where he grew up. He attended Long Beach State University and graduated from Santa Barbara art institute in 1975. He married fellow artist, Carol Blakeslee, in 1975. After art school, Lowell and Carol moved to the Bay Area. To supplement their art income, together they started Ritz-Pinz, a ceramic jewelry business that designed and marketed jewelry directly to the public as well as wholesale to department and boutique stores. After closing that business in the early 80s, Lowell and Carol moved to Benicia in 1980 and acquired Benicia Frame in 1984. Benicia Frame was an important part of the Benicia art and merchant community until 2020. Lowell loved the craftsmanship of the business as well as working one on one with customers, designing and framing projects. Lowell came to be known as a master framer in the Bay Area. He felt that what people brought into the shop was precious. Whether it was a child's drawing, a diploma, or a piece of fine art, Lowell gave his full and undivided attention to the customer and the project.

Lowell's passion for life was expressed in his amazing creativity, abiding sense of wonder about the natural world, his inquisitive mind and his wonderful sense of humor. Lowell was a fine artist who created beautiful

paintings and drawings that have a deep elegance and vitality to them . He was a member of Arts Benicia Figure Drawing group for 25 years. Lowell was also an avid fly fisherman who tied his own flies. He spent treasured time in the mountains of California, Oregon, Idaho and Montana. Lowell loved gardening and was especially enthralled with roses and citrus trees. Lowell was a runner for 50 years and rode his bike daily throughout Benicia. Lowell was preceded in death but his parents Earl and Eleanor Dalton. He leaves his wife of 48 years, Carol Dalton of Benicia, his brother and sister in law Cole Dalton and Susan MacDonald of Menlo Park. He leaves his brother and sister in law Chris and Mary Blakeslee of Petaluma and Jim and Tricia Blakeslee of Australia, as well as dear friends throughout the Bay Area. A private celebration of his life will take place later in the spring, and an exhibition of his art will be arranged in the future open to the public. Donations can me made to preferred environmental causes, Arts Benicia, or Cancer research.

# Tribute Wall



“ Although we met Lowell a couple years before his passing, he left a lasting impression on myself and my wife as a friendly, kind and compassionate man. He and "Pip" would always stop so our dogs and Pip could say "Hi" to each other. We'd share some happenings from each others life. When finished he'd smile and say, "So long, talk to you later." Lowell will be missed but not forgotten. R.I.P. Lowell.  
May your memories and love for him carry you forward Carol.  
Take care, Ed & Jeanette Little

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**Ed Little** - June 02, 2024 at 01:06 AM

AL

“ Lowell was a kind and gentle human. He showed so much thoughtfulness when my mom died and he framed her picture for the funeral, not charging a thing when we came to pick it up as she, and our family has had many meaningful pieces of art framed by Lowell. Each one he took the time to lend his expertise and took joy in the art we loved. I looked forward to bringing in new pieces because of this and because he was such a calming presence with a kind heart.

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**Anna Lawrence** - April 03, 2024 at 12:41 AM

PB

“ Carol thinking of you. I lost Glenn a year ago on the 20th so understand only to well. I will always have fond memories of Lowell, with all the Art work in my home that he framed for me over the years and you as well.

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**Pam Bittle** - March 31, 2024 at 02:37 PM

DH

“ My wall of Art will always be a reminder of your creativity .Thank you Lowell for continuing a craft that is slowly disappearing ....plus always ready for a conversation about current events. Condolences to Carol . ...You have left your mark...RIP Dan Horan

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**Dan Horan** - March 27, 2024 at 09:37 PM

LM

“ I am grateful for the years of friendship and art shared with Lowell. A very kind and talented man.

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**Laura Mullet** - March 27, 2024 at 11:50 AM