



Sharon Louise Anderson

July 7, 1955 - April 28, 2021

Sharon Louise Anderson, Contra Costa County legal counsel, cherished sister, aunt and friend passed away from cancer on April 28, 2021 at the age of 65.

Sharon spent the majority of her career at the Contra Costa County Counsel's office where she rose through the ranks with her outstanding work ethic, dedication and genuine passion for her job. Sharon became Chief Assistant County Counsel in 2001 then in 2009 was appointed the county's first female County Counsel. She was a tremendous leader with a brilliant legal mind who touched many lives.

Sharon was integrally involved in many projects that affected people in the county and the way they lived. Most recently she negotiated a comprehensive settlement between the County and the Prison Law Office regarding the operation of County detention facilities. The settlement involved four years of negotiation between the Prison Law Office and several County departments, including the Sheriff's Office, Health Services Department, and County Administrator's Office, providing a humanistic road map for the provision of County services for inmates within its detention facilities. The settlement included a remedial plan for mental health and suicide prevention services, as well as a separate remedial plan for medical services.

Early in her career, Sharon negotiated a comprehensive settlement among the County, San Ramon, Danville, and developers in response to a 1992 lawsuit over the County's plans to allow up to 11,000 homes in the Dougherty Valley

east of San Ramon. After two years of negotiations, the parties entered into a settlement agreement to establish principles for developing Dougherty Valley which included enforceable standards for providing services, infrastructure, and facilities to the development. A cooperative process for the review and approval of the development phases and provisions for the annexation of the development into San Ramon were also included in the agreement.

Sharon's public service extended to the Benicia Housing Authority where she served as chairperson for many years. She donated countless hours improving quantity and quality of affordable housing in this community, a place she loved and resided in for more than 30 years.

Sharon was born July 7, 1955 in Brockton, Massachusetts to Richard and Pauline Anderson. Her father a minister, Sharon and her siblings spent much of their childhood in church. Always a top student, Sharon from an early age was a lover of learning and an avid reader. She graduated from Carleton College in 1977, went on to earn her law degree from McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific then was admitted to the California State Bar in 1980. Outside of her work, Sharon loved Broadway musicals and theatre, and was a steadfast supporter of A.C.T.- American Conservatory Theater in San Francisco. As busy as she was, she always had time for a smile and a chat about recent episodes of The Walking Dead or the latest movie.

Sharon was an expert chef and baker who loved cooking for her family and friends. "Christmas at Sharon's" was a cherished tradition for her much-loved family. Sharon will be greatly missed by her sisters Kathy and Joanie, brother-in-law Bob, niece Jenna and her husband Mike, nieces Sophia and Olivia, nephew Tyler and her many friends. Sharon's family and friends were the greatest joys of her life. Those she loved, she loved unconditionally and forever. She will be remembered and missed by many.

Due to current restrictions on gatherings, services will not be held at this time. If you would like to celebrate Sharon's life, the family asks that you please consider making a donation in her name to The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano, an organization she cared for deeply.

Tribute Wall



“ *Sharon Louise Anderson*

November 29, 2022 at 08:20 PM



“ *Sharon Anderson has inspired me to want to be a better person as she had always tried that for those around her she always encouraged her friends and family to be their best. She was a true inspiration and I was blessed to have been able to call her a true friend. She will be missed by so many . She is going to be remembered fondly of of by me she was strong and I always enjoyed our morning conversation .*



Leann - May 23, 2021 at 12:43 PM