



Alison Moldenke

October 18, 1943 - January 8, 2023

Alison Moldenke
(1943-2023)

Alison Moldenke died of natural causes on January 9, 2023. Alison is survived by her husband Andrew Moldenke (retired), her son Kelsey (city planner) and his wife Sanskriti (construction manager), and her brother Richard Feerick (retired lawyer) and his wife Cindi. Alison was a loving wife of 55 years, a caring mother, and a perfect big sister.

Alison was born in New York City after a rushed auto trip from rural Upstate. She spent her early years on a farm in Kinderhook. When she approached school age, her family moved to Tennessee, where both parents worked at the University of Tennessee for many decades teaching law and English. She attended Wellesley College (class of 1964 BSci), Wesleyan University (MA 1966) and Stanford University (PhD Biological Science 1973) . While attending Wesleyan she met and married Andy (1967). They subsequently attended Stanford while studying separate fields of entomology and development.

After their doctorates they moved to Santa Cruz, California, where she gave birth to Kelsey. Alison then taught at Cabrillo College, Santa Clara University and Vassar College. In 1980, Alison started a series of jobs at Oregon State

University researching toxicology (how insects escape being killed by agricultural pesticides). She later switched to the College of Forestry where she was a scientific/technical editor for the rest of her professional career. In Forestry, she assisted faculty and students to prepare scientific publications in journals and presentations for professional meetings. She also wrote pieces describing research being done throughout the College.

After retiring in 2009, she spent much of her time in volunteer activities. She continued to volunteer at Stone Soup, the community soup-kitchen, serving for over 30 years. She also tutored English as a second language at the local community college and served as a conversant to the diverse international community of Corvallis.

Since retirement Alison had the good fortune to establish familial connections in Ireland (and Andy in Scandinavia) as well as piggy-backing on Andy's fieldwork in insect ecology in Mexico, Costa Rica, Chile, Brazil, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Japan.

Alison has described her life as a LONG journey, but not all that strange – just enough to have made it very interesting!

Tribute Wall

Ed
Peachey

“ Dear Andy and Family, I just learned of Allison's passing and wanted to extend my condolences. I have many fond memories of lunch with Allison and you over the years when I would run into you downtown, always unplanned. May good memories bring peace and healing. Blessings to you all. Ed Peachey

Ed Peachey - March 20, 2023 at 09:34 PM

JS

“ Dear Andy, Toni and I are thinking of you today. We saw Allison's obituary in the Newspaper, and I thought of the many interesting and entertaining conversations we have had over the years. Though our paths have not crossed for several years we have warm memories of our contacts with you and we just wanted you to know that we are wishing you strength and support in this difficult time, Love Toni Hoyman and Jay Sexton

Jay Sexton - January 26, 2023 at 10:05 AM

AH

“ Andy, I'm very sorry to know Alison has died. I have fond memories of her working at Stone Soup on Wednesday, and more memories of her serving as a lector during the 5 pm Mass at St Mary's. May you find peace and comfort in your memories. - Jane Huyer

Adriana Huyer - January 25, 2023 at 11:55 PM

KD

“ Dear Andy and family, We were very sorry to read of Alison's passing. We wish you healing and solace in sweet memories of her. Fondly, Kelly Donegan & Jim DiGiulio

Kelly Donegan - January 25, 2023 at 11:49 AM