



## Bonnie Little

January 16, 1949 - April 15, 2016

Bonnie Little

January 16, 1949 April 15, 2016

Bonnie Little passed away April 15, 2016 surrounded by her family. She will be greatly missed by those whose lives she touched. She had a huge, generous heart and always put others before herself. She dedicated herself to her family and leaves behind a legacy of love and wonderful memories.

Bonnie was born in Alhambra, California to Albert and Norma (Edgerton) Bertolotti. She completed the family by joining older siblings Mary and Jim. Bonnie grew up in Arleta, California surrounded by a large extended family and graduated from San Fernando High School. In 1967, Bonnie married Richard Little. They were quickly joined by two daughters, Christy and Julie. In 1976, Bonnie and her daughters moved to Corvallis, Oregon. She began working in the banking industry, and has continued to do so for over 40 years. Bonnie loved her daughters, grand children and grand pets deeply. She raised Christy and Julie largely by herself and taught them how to be strong, independent women, and what unconditional love looks like. She took them on many adventures that created cherished memories. When her grand children came along, she was overjoyed. She was the grandma who was there for every milestone, every school function, performance, and sporting event. She was present in the daily life of her family talking on the phone almost every day to her daughters, visiting often, always offering a helping hand no matter what the project was, playing with and taking care of her

grand pets, and simply enjoying time together. One of her favorite things to do was being with her family at the beach in Neskowin watching the eagles. Bonnie was preceded in death by both her parents and her sister Mary Gillespie.

She is survived by her daughter Christy Little, daughter Julie Hessel and her husband Colter, grand children Wiley and Jenna Hessel, brother Jim Bertolotti and his wife Diane. She also leaves behind several cherished nieces, nephews and cousins.

A celebration of life will be held at 11 am on Saturday, April 23, 2016 at McHenry Funeral Home in Corvallis, OR.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her honor to Project H.E.R. (Help, Enlightenment, Resources for local breast cancer patients) at <http://www.corvallisclinicfoundation.org/project-her/>.

T

# Tribute Wall

CN

“ Bonnie was the "best friend" I ever had in the banking business. I'm so sorry to hear of her passing. Her memorial describes quite well the lady I knew for close to 20 years at BofA. Caring and thoughtful to people she served at work and in her personal life too. I will miss her kind face and greetings.

---

**C. Nelson** - May 28, 2016 at 01:59 PM

DR

“ Bonnie was such a wonderful person to know. I worked with her at Bank of America for almost 7 years and she was one of the best supervisors I've ever had. She cared. When I was pregnant with my first baby she would harass me to put a coat on, or bring that baby in so they could see her. At one point my tires were bald and I couldn't afford new ones. She was genuinely concerned for my safety and was very happy when I finally got new tires. We shared a love of *The Big Bang Theory* and we would text each other when something big happened. I'm really going to miss that. I'm going to miss her. When I left the bank a few years ago, she got me a coffee cup and had everyone write a note and sign the cup. I will always think of her when I use it. I'm so sorry that she's gone, but Heaven is a little brighter now with her in it.

---

**Dana Riggle** - April 23, 2016 at 10:30 AM

CG

“ I last saw Bonnie about a week before her illness was diagnosed. At the grocery store! She looked wonderful. Christie informed me of her moms' illness soon after. I only saw Bonnie a few times but was impressed by her obvious love for Christie. I send my deepest sympathy to the Little family. Losing a Mom is always hard. May God bring comfort to you all.

---

**Christine Goonan** - April 20, 2016 at 07:23 PM

CB

“ I am truly honored that as a young naive girl in the late 80's I was hired at bank in Corvallis Oregon. She graciously took me under her wing & helped every step of the way. I baked cookies for her, only to find out chocolate was her favorite. The only time she "wrote" me up...I was so scared, thought I was getting fired!..It was for lack of bringing more chocolate.

When my only sister passed, I showed up at work the next morning, she grabbed me & hugged me & let me cry. Then she let me go home to be with my family.

I have always had the utmost respect for this woman. She was a gift of love from God.

She always talked so proudly of her daughters, one I remember worked on a deep sea boat. She loved her girls!

Connita Burse

---

Connita Burse - April 20, 2016 at 04:12 PM

MW

“ I had the privilege of knowing Bonnie while working at Equitable Savings & Loan. Bonnie worked in the Corvallis office, and I worked in the Albany office. We attended many meetings together, and she always talked about her daughters Julie and Christy. We survived two bank "takeovers", first by Benj.Franklin Savings & n Loan, and in 1990, Bank of America. She was always very professional, and possessed a wonderful wry sense of humor. I was shocked to hear of her passing. My sincere condolences to her family. She will be missed.

---

Marty Wheaton - April 20, 2016 at 01:20 PM

MC

“God is our refuge and strength; a help that is readily found in times of distress.” (Psalms 46:1) My deepest condolences to the family on the loss of your loved one. And may the above words give you some peace knowing that the Almighty God is with you to comfort and sustain you through this difficult time.

---

**Mary A. Crayton** - April 20, 2016 at 01:06 PM

CH

“ I have know Bonnie since I started working with her back in my banking days, Benj.Franklin Savings & Loan 1980 and through many mergers until Bank of America. She had a heart of gold, funny, the best mom and friend. My thoughts and prayers to you Christy and Julie as well as the rest of her family. You left way to soon. Hugs.



---

**Cindy Huddleston** - April 20, 2016 at 11:39 AM

JW

With fond memories I remember when Henry Langhaim hired Bonnie to work with me in the teller area of Equitable Savings. Bonnie and the girls had just relocated to Corvallis from California. I really enjoyed working with Bonnie - she was a quick learner and soon had a lot of customers who wanted only her to wait on them. To this day I still use her Lasagna recipe as it is a family favorite, especially Jeff. I pray that Bonnie is resting in peace. My sincere sympathy to the girls and the rest of the family.

*Jean Wilber*

---

**Jean Wilber** - April 20, 2016 at 11:38 PM