



## Rosie Saraga

October 31, 1951 - January 15, 2014

Once in a lifetime a gal like Rosie Saraga comes along: breezy warmth, wild humor, tack sharp intelligence all underpinned in a deep love for life and the people she met along her way. Just as the rhythm of her name had flow, so too, her bubbly spirit and contagious sparkle of being.

Rosie (Rosebud) was born on Halloween, 1951 to Vladimir (Walter) and Annie Luczeczko Saraga in Philadelphia, PA. She grew up with brother Walt and sisters Shirley and Lorraine, all later known as "the birdies" by their mother. Their home in Wallingford was built by her Grandfather, Father and family members on a 5-acre farm they all called "the Back Field" where she enjoyed gardening with her mother and beekeeping with her "Big Daddy."

Rosie graduated from Nether Providence High School in Wallingford, PA. She attended West Chester State College for 2 years majoring in physical education and philosophy. She worked and studied at the TM Capitol in New York State where she learned to cook and fix vacuum cleaners all of which she affectionately named. She later attended Maharishi University in Fairfield, Iowa, where she became a Siddha and met Maharishi. She practiced meditation faithfully, daily until the moment she died. She briefly worked at the Franklin Mint painting collectibles and later in packaging. Rosie also worked at the Mutter Museum where she photographed medical specimens, models and instruments.

Rosie had a passion for photography that began as a little girl with her Instamatic. This passion grew to a talent that included developing her photographs in her own dark room. She developed special photographic and dark room techniques, some of which she never shared because she said "it would take the mystery out of it." She was an avid collector of found objects from nature, driveways, yard and estate sales. These 'treasures' would often become the feature of her photographic art.

Rosie moved to Corvallis in 1992 with her 4-legged children, Sadie and Belle, "American Shepherds," whom she adored. In Corvallis she quickly established an extended family and shared her incredible cooking, walks along the Willamette River, trips to the coast, camping, photography and reading. She became involved in the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship where she was a participant in the 'Covening Group' which we all know now was really called the Covenant Group. She was involved with the "Book Club" at Grassroots Bookstore and the Photo Arts Guild. Her photography won awards and was published along with some of her writings in "The Sun" magazine. Until her health prevented her, Rosie made cross country road trips home to 'Philly' to see her family and friends, visiting most of the National Parks on the way.

Rosie founded Rosie Saraga Photography and website from which she published and marketed her fine art cards and photographic images. Rosie died in Corvallis, in her home, surrounded by family and friends at 4:10 am on Wednesday, January 15th night of a full moon. She was preceded in death by her parents and 4-legged children Sadie and Belle. She leaves behind her beloved brother Walt (Diana) and sisters Shirley(Dale) and Lorraine (Bob), niece Elena (Russ), nephew Jared and his daughter Kylee, life long partner Tom Fuller, best friends Barb and Geri and an army of special friends.

The Rosie Time Party will be held Saturday, January 25th from 4-6 at the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship at 2945 NW Circle in Corvallis. Bring stories and photos to share. A celebration of her life will also be held in the Philly area at a later date.

In lieu of flowers you may send donations to a charity of your choice benefiting animals.

# Tribute Wall

DG

“ I knew Rosie casually as a pharmacist and always enjoyed her sense of humor and zesty, feistiness. She always encouraged me in my adventures in a "You go girl!" way.  
I am sorry for the loss to her family and many friends. She is missed.  
Debi Gile

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**Debi Gile** - February 12, 2014 at 12:46 PM

FR

“ It is great sadness that I just read of Rosie's passing. We recently got a card from her telling us that she was glad that she had found us to tell us that we are in her heart forever. Well, Rosie you are in our hearts & we will love you forever too. Missing you, sweet woman.  
Fran Renaud & Woody Fuller

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**fran renaud** - January 28, 2014 at 02:23 PM

JS

“ Rosie was a dear, sweet, loving friend. I will always remember her positive attitude, her love of animals, children and photography. She took so many wonderful photos of me and my family during our time together in West Chester, Pa.

*I first met Rosie at West Chester State College and we became fast friend, sisters. She helped me with our first child, Rachael and our dog Pince who was quite a handful.*

*Rosie always had a kind word and a fabulous smile. We enjoyed visiting her at the family home and became regulars for dinner and holidays.*

*My thoughts and prayers are with the family and all her friends as we all pay tribute to a wonderful woman.*

*Jeanne & Van Schmelzer*

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**Jeanne E. Schmelzer** - January 25, 2014 at 02:58 PM

JD

“ I just read the news about Rosie. I am so sorry for your loss. Rosie sounds like someone I would have enjoyed getting to know, and I'm sure that many friends and family love and will miss her.

*Even Jesus grieved when he lost Lazarus, his friend. He understood personally how death affects humans, and by bringing Lazarus back to life, Jesus demonstrated God's plan for many who have died--life again here on a paradise earth under God's Kingdom.*

*I look forward to meeting Rosie and her family here on earth when God's government gives her a chance at living forever young on a beautiful cleansed earth with no sickness or pain. (Revelation 21: 3, 4)*

*May the true God comfort you in this time of sorrow.*

*Judy*

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**Judy D** - January 21, 2014 at 09:35 PM

CP

“ Cousins Patty And Pat sent a virtual gift in memory of Rosie Saraga



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**Cousins Patty and Pat** - January 20, 2014 at 11:29 AM



“ I am SO glad that I joined the Covenant Group that Rosie belonged to. She introduced me to "The Sun" magazine since at group meetings she would say if she had a photograph published in the next issue. Our Covenant Group also has her fine-art cards. On Sunday mornings our group leader would write down what people said when they lit a candle (now place a pebble in water). At our meeting someone would write a message in the card, we would all sign it and then it would be sent. Many times I broke the rules of the Covenant Group and at times got very frustrated. One time I was about to leave the room and she settled me down. She often complimented me on qualities she liked about me. She cheered me up when I was down. She had an incredible sense of humor that she was able to to maintain during her e-mails to the Covenant Group while she was in Hospice care. It is also due to her that I decided to join Facebook, and I am so glad I did that. During these past several months, I e-mailed her song lyrics having to do with love. Her favorites were "Bushel and a Peck" from Guys and Dolls and The Beatles' "All You Need Is Love". The chorus of "Bushel and a Peck" goes " I love you a bushel and a peck, a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck, a hug around the neck and a barrel and a heap, a barrel and a heap and I'm talikin' in my sleep about you, about you, 'cause I love you, you bet your pretty neck I do..."  
I miss her so much.

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**Kristin Komar** - January 19, 2014 at 10:30 AM

KK

“ Kristin Komar sent a virtual gift in memory of Rosie Saraga



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**Kristin Komar** - January 19, 2014 at 09:23 AM

KK

“ *Kristin Komar lit a candle in memory of Rosie Saraga*



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**Kristin Komar** - January 18, 2014 at 06:26 PM

KK

“ *I have known Rosie Saraga since she started coming to the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis. I got to know her better once I joined the Covenant Group she was in. She was such a wonderful person. I loved her sense of humor and wit. She was such a sweet person who complimented me often and cheered me up when I was down. She introduced me to "The Sun" Magazine and subtly encouraged me to join Facebook (I am SO glad I did). In recent months I e-mailed her song lyrics having to do with love because of my love for her. Her favorites were "Bushel and Peck"-- "I love you a bushel and a peck; a bushel and a peck and a hug around the neck; a hug around the neck and a barrel and a heap; a barrel and a heap and I'm talikin' in my sleep about you...." And The Beatles' "All You Need Is Love".*

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**Kristin Komar** - January 18, 2014 at 05:32 PM