

Frances Kathryn (Kay) McNamara (Maudsley Salgado)

December 15, 1923 ~ August 6, 2020

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Our beautiful Brighton girl has gone home. We have no doubt she rode her horse into heaven wearing a beautiful scarf and carrying a burlap bag full of abandoned puppies! There to meet her: her son, Cameron, who we have felt watching over her these last few years, her beloved parents, Irene Croft, and Francis McNamara, all the kitties and dogs she rescued, her many cherished friends and of course, her Savior; that reunion, a glorious one after a life spent loving Him and being a true missionary of the gospel. We will miss her wisdom, her laugh – oh she loved to laugh, her joy of life and nature, her love for people and her devotion to family. We love you Mom and will miss you terribly.

Kay was the consummate philanthropist. Her contribution to every soul she met was profound. She was easy to talk to, deep in her thinking, and always had a precious gift of advice to share. She was intuitive and sensed what people needed. She made fast friends, people who longed to be with her and benefit from her friendship and wisdom. Connecting with people was effortless for her. She never met a stranger she didn't know. As a young mother, she took in unwed mothers. She had the ability to use her words to lift them up, instill a sense of self-worth and respect and send them on their way.

Kay is from the greatest generation and one of the last "great dames", now a vanishing breed. Being gracious and having elegant manners were important to her. If you slipped up in that department, she wouldn't hesitate to let you know. She had respect for others and believed every soul to be precious and valuable.

Kay was an entrepreneur of a different kind. She was a gifted cosmetologist and had a beauty-shop in her home when her children were younger. She owned Good Neighbor Tours out of Laredo, Texas and introduced many tourist to the enchantment of Mexico. She won business woman of the year twice and prided herself in offering a trip they would never forget beginning with exceptional customer service. She had a twenty-year career in sales at the Little America Fine Gift Shop and five years as a floral designer at the Grand America flower shop. She retired at the age of eighty-two. It was a decision she made with much anguish. After all, whatever would she do with her life? After retirement, she longed to impart the lessons of life, so important to us all, to everyone she encountered. She accomplished that task, perhaps without knowing it, and made a difference to those surrounding her right up to the final days of her life. Job well done!

Kay had a fascination with Mexico. She moved there, learned to speak the language fluently and traveled the entire country. She learned about the people and the culture. She visited jungles most people will never see. She considered it a privilege to know and love her Mexican family. "What wonderful people!" She was grateful her children had the opportunity to visit Mexico and share in her experience there.

Kay had wonderful, friends in the Darling Girls, a club formed in Jr. High School. The eighteen-plus fabulous ladies stayed close throughout their lives, faithfully gathered for club/lunch monthly, traveled together, and helped raise each other's children.

Kay loved animals, (as evidenced by her many rescue efforts). She was a good horseman and her adventures in Little Cottonwood Canyon, including visiting the sheep-herders, are book worthy. Brighton was an escape and a haven. She loved to travel. She left her heart in San Francisco and pined over the enchanted city. Her visit to Israel was a life-changing experience. Kay was an avid reader. She studied self-improvement and made an exceptional effort to incorporate those principles in her life. She made sure we all understood how powerful our words were and to use them with respect and forethought. Kay took excellent care of herself and was into healthy eating long before it was fashionable. She encouraged countless people throughout her life to ditch the sugar, soda pop and processed food for organic, nutrient rich, live foods. She was a clothes horse and had an elegant sense of style – one that seems to have gone out of style these days. She always dressed to the nines, classy and stylish even when we went to the canyon. She loved to ski. She loved a great party, especially if there was dancing, and always served her famous guacamole and authentic Mexican margaritas.

Messages from Kay to her family:
My children made life a heaven on earth.
Christian, I know how much you sacrificed to care for me and I know how much you love me. Words can never express how grateful I am to and for you.
Steve, practical and with a head for solving the most difficult problems, thank you for solving a few of my toughest and for being there when I really needed you.
Sue, I will always remember the thought-provoking conversations we've had and the precious time we've spent together. I loved our adventures. What fun we've had!
Ron, how generous and kind you've been to me, my children and grandchildren. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.
Janette, thank you for your attention to me and for taking good care of my son. I want you both to be happy.

And to her grandchildren:
Tiffany, thank you for bringing Arrow to meet me. You're a beautiful momma.
Amie Kay, my Sagittarius beauty, I will be there to help you through this.
Jessica, thank you for saving me, "girlfriend".
Wynn Davis, I'm so proud of the man you've become. And you are such a wonderful father!
Joshua, thank you for being such good company and always reminding me to "breathe."
Haleigh and Stephanie, I truly wish we'd had the opportunity to know each other better.

Special mention:
Wells S. Maudsley, (first husband / deceased) thank you for providing a lovely home where I could raise our children and for being a good man.
And to my adopted kids, you filled my life and made it more rewarding than you could possibly imagine. Thank you. You know who you are.
Lundy, my dear friend, can't wait to sit together and laugh about all this!
Cheryl and Jim, now I know. My heart is full of sacred gratitude. Bless you both. I will be watching over you.
Val, thank you for saving my dignity and swooping in unsolicited.
Darcy, hope you don't mind if I stay in touch. (wink, wink)

In conclusion and as Mom/Grandma moves peacefully on, if you think the training stops here, you are mistaken. Graciousness is the goal and it's been passed from our beautiful Mom and Grandmother to all her posterity. "Teach your children to be gracious. Manners never go out of style. Respect your family. Be exceptional at what you love. Practice elegance, and make me proud! I've devoted my life to making you better people. Now it's up to you. I love you with all my heart and will see you on the other side. Until then, Dios este' contingo hasta que nos volvamos a ver." (God be with you till we meet again.)

The family would like to thank Kay’s many caregivers for their gentle and loving attention paid to their precious mom. What beautifully enlightened people came to her assist in the last several years of her life and how grateful we are to you. A very special and heartfelt thanks to Cheryl and Jim Jones whose constant love and enlightened presence carried us through it all. Thank you beloved friends. And to Helen Leech whose life-long friendship with Kay lasted the test of time; we love and adore you auntie! Thank you to Nadine Marcus for helping us make the difficult transition from home to Independent living and for the thousands of concessions made in Mom’s behalf. Your steady influence kept us calm. Thank you to Dave and Tracy Meredith, the owners of the very classy Beacon Crest Senior Living for making sure Kay went out in “Martha Stewart” style! Thank you to all the CNAs and caregivers entrusted to care for Kay, angels who treated her with great respect and dignity and genuinely loved her. We love you right back. Thank you to Silverado Hospice and Tender Care Hospice whose vigilant watch created a safe-haven, steadiness and peace in all our lives, especially Mom’s. We feel so abundantly blessed and are grateful for every moment of thoughtful care and kindness.

Kay is survived by three children, Steven Wells Maudsley, (Rhonda (deceased)), Sue M. McMillin (Ron), Christian Joseph Maudsley, (Janette), 10 grandchildren, 16 great grandchildren, 4 great-great grandchildren. Kay was preceded in death by her son Cameron Richard Maudsley, her mother Pearl Irene Croft, and her father Francis McNamara.

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, 12, 2020 at 10:30 at Larkin Sunset Lawn located at 2350 East 1300 South. Due to Covid-19 mask and social distancing are requested.

In lieu of flowers, the family would love to hear about your experiences with Kay. You can share these memories by pressing the "Send Condolences" tab at the top of the page. Thank you! We're excited to hear your stories.