
IN MEMORIUM

Carrol Ann “Chuckie” Aanestad 1951-2023



It is difficult to capture in words the essence of a life so grand as that of wife, sister, friend, and teacher Chuckie Aanestad, who left us suddenly on February 4, 2023, at home in Leaburg, Oregon, with her devoted husband Duane by her side. Chuckie was born on September 19, 1951, in Eugene, Oregon, to Dale and Janet Scofield, the first of four children. She spent her childhood in South Dakota and northern Montana, moving often with her father's job.

After graduating from Oregon College of Education, Chuckie arrived in Riverton, Wyoming, in January of 1975, to teach middle school art for District #25. Soon after, on a cross-country ski adventure into Brooks Lake, she met Duane, and they began their forever love affair together. After their marriage in 1979, in Nimrod, Oregon, Duane and Chuckie bought a home at the base of Casper Mountain, Wyoming. In 1980, they moved back

to Riverton where Chuckie began a job with The Ranger drawing ads. She was subsequently hired back into the Riverton school district as an elementary art teacher at Jefferson Elementary School.

With her giving spirit, Chuckie lent her artistic eye, time, and talent to Central Wyoming College, volunteering to CWC theatre programs as well as creating poster art for upcoming events. She was an active member of Arts in Action, the Riverton Garden Club, and several book clubs. She was very proud to be asked to draw historical locations and artifacts for geological reference for a class she took at Central Wyoming College. Chuckie was a long-time member of the Fremont County Archaeological Society and served as secretary before she and her husband moved to Leseburg, OR in 2014.

Family meant everything to Chuckie, and so in 2014, she and Duane began a new chapter of their lives and moved back to Leaburg, Oregon, to be

nearer her mother and extended family. They bought a home overlooking the McKenzie River. It didn't take long before Chuckie's days were filled with new friends, creating picture-perfect gardens, sharing plants with those up and down the river, volunteering for the Leaburg Library, and presenting as an OSU Master Gardener and for local garden clubs. She also worked many McKenzie Track meets with her husband, Duane.

In Leaburg, Chuckie was a member of the Up-river Garden Club, Late Bloomers Garden Club, OSU Master Gardeners, and the Hardy Plant Society, and still somehow found time to be a mentor and teacher to any who asked. Time and knowledge are among the most valuable gifts anyone has to give, and Chuckie shared hers generously, humbly, and graciously. When faced with a new offer, Chuckie had already said yes before you could finish the question.

She leaves behind her loving husband, Duane, of 43 years, best friend and sister, Connie (Cliff) of Finn Rock, Oregon, brothers Dallas (Tammy) of

Lebanon, Oregon, and Wade of Nimrod, Oregon, step-daughter Dr. Amy (Jeff) Short, eight grandchildren, and her nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her step-daughter Karena Finch.

All of those privileged to know her will deeply miss her dedication to family and friends, her students, her countless contributions to her communities, and Chuckie's incredibly adventurous, creative, inquisitive, and giving spirit.

Donations can be made to the Leaburg Library, 42888 McKenzie Highway, Leaburg, OR 97489, the Vida McKenzie Community Center, 90377 Thomson Lane, Vida, OR 97488, or the OSU Extension Service Master Gardeners Program, 996 Jefferson Street, Eugene, OR 97402.

A Celebration of Life will be held at the Aanes-tad residence in Leaburg, Oregon, and in Riverton, Wyoming, later this spring and summer.

Adapted from: <https://county10.com/in-loving-memory-carrol-ann-chuckie-aanestad/>
