



## Denise Anne Harrison

July 20, 1957 - October 5, 2015

Denise Harrison, age 58, passed away in Gulf Shores, Alabama, on October 5th, 2015. Born at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, on July 20, 1957 to career Army parents, Denise moved frequently, living in Oklahoma, Texas, Hawaii, Rhode Island, Georgia, Virginia, and New Jersey, where she graduated from Montclair University.

After graduation, Denise worked briefly in New York City before moving to Orange County, California, working for several aerospace companies, including Hughes Aircraft Company. She earned a Master's Degree in Journalism from California State University Fullerton.

In 2002 Denise moved to Gulf Shores, Alabama, becoming an independent contractor/free-lance writer for several audio-visual companies, most recently as the Director of Marketing Communications for Professional Systems Network International.

Denise loved animals, volunteering at animal shelters and always accompanied by her small dog, most recently a rescue Yorkie. After moving to Alabama she served as a tutor to disadvantaged children.

For over a decade, Denise volunteered in support of Project Jason, an organization established to increase public awareness of missing people, serving on its Board of Directors.

She is survived by her parents, William and Shirley Harrison of Gulf Shores, Alabama; a brother, William Dale Harrison of Elon, NC; and nephews, Nathan and Gabe Harrison of Burlington, NC.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 AM, in the Compass Room on the first floor of the Compass Point Condominium on Sandpiper Lane in Gulf Shores.

It was Denise's wish that donations in lieu of flowers be made to Project Jason, PO Box 59054, Renton, WA 98058, or online: <http://projectjason.org/how-you-can-help.html>

arrangements by Cason Funeral Service, Foley, Al.

# Tribute Wall

AP

“Denise was truly the best childhood friend I ever had. From 6th through 9th grades in West Springfield, Virginia, Denise and her loving family were like a second family to me. I've wondered about her over the years, and was saddened to learn that she passed away at such a young age two years ago. My condolences to her parents and brother. I can see from the many tributes that she was very loved and loving, and touched the lives of many others. With many wonderful memories and gratitude for the time she was in my life,  
Angie (Henderson) Parrish

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**Angela Parrish** - September 21, 2017 at 04:18 PM

MB

“ I met Denise back in the 1980s when we were both members of IABC, the International Association of Business Communicators, Orange County, Calif., chapter. We worked on various association projects together and became friends. I soon discovered that Denise was a talented writer and I often asked for her advice—which she willingly gave. Over the years, Denise’s editor’s pencil helped improve so many things I wrote including my first mystery novel sold to a publisher last year.

She was an intentional catalyst in my becoming close friends with another IABC member at the time, J. David Pincus, who taught communications at Cal State University – Fullerton. Over the years, the three of us became something of a trio of friends talking about writing—which in some manner we all did for a living—movies and other events. Although we all moved from California to other states, we stayed in touch frequently via phone and email.

David and I agonized over Denise’s condition and rode the emotional roller coaster as various treatments worked and didn’t work. Throughout it all we admired her determination, her sense of humor and most of all valued her friendship. We miss her dearly.

Attached is a photo taken 24 years ago. The IABC board held a going-away party for me (second from right) when I left California. All the folks here—including Denise—are association members.



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Mark S. Bacon - October 12, 2015 at 05:40 PM

KA

“ How sad to hear of the loss of your precious daughter Denise. She was a lovely person who left an imprint on the hearts of those of us who came to know her through the Project Jason Keys to Healing Retreats. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy.  
Karen Andersen

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**Karen Andersen** - October 11, 2015 at 11:38 PM



“ Denise is also mentioned in my first book "Where's Opie? Vanished in Chicago"

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**Donald Ross** - October 11, 2015 at 10:53 PM



“ She was so nice, so supportive at the retreats. Not a 'professional' nice person, but one who really gave from the heart. I close my eyes and I can see her smiling face, all those times my wife and I were lifted up by her warmth and wonderful personality.

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**Donald Ross** - October 11, 2015 at 10:47 PM

DC

“ Denise was a blessing to everyone she met. The world lost an amazing beauty, Heaven gained a Precious Angel. May God be with you & wrap you in comfort.  
Debi  
Project Jason

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**Deborah Cox** - October 11, 2015 at 10:25 PM

  
Malinda  
Hoyt

“ I had the privilege to become acquainted with Denise at the first Project Jason Keys to Healing retreat. Her genuine generous and gentle spirit significantly contributed to my road toward healing at that event and future retreats. Truly her love and generosity will continue through those she touched. My prayers are with all who loved her that beautiful memories will bring peace.

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**Malinda Hoyt** - October 11, 2015 at 05:14 PM

HR

“ Denise was an amazing person. One of the first I ever met at my first CUE conference. She sat with me and showed me her garden in Second Life. She encouraged me to attend the PJ retreat and get to know more families. I was blessed to know her and call her a friend. May she rest well and watch over us all.  
Love always,  
Helen

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**Helen Ryan-Zimmel** - October 11, 2015 at 04:40 PM

JL

“ My heart aches at the news of Denise passing. She will be greatly missed. She was such a warm and loving person who cared so deeply for others.

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**Jean Langness** - October 11, 2015 at 04:38 PM

SB

“ Thoughts & Prayers during this time of Loss,  
May your Memories Console You at this  
Time.



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**Sheryl Burt** - October 11, 2015 at 04:19 PM

LS

“ My deepest sympathies to your family. I only met Denise once but could sense what a kind and giving heart she had.

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**Laura Saxton** - October 11, 2015 at 04:10 PM

MB

“ I had the privilege of meeting Denise thru the Project Jason organization. I hope you find comfort and peace in knowing how much she gave to us. She will always have a special place in my heart. I hope she is sharing our love with our family members, who she cared so much about thru Project Jason. May she rest in peace.

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**Maureen Barton** - October 11, 2015 at 04:07 PM

CJ

“ I am so saddened to hear about losing Denise!! She was so sweet and kind!! I will never forget her hugs or beautiful smile!! She is missed for sure!! May she rest in peace!!

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**Carolyn Johnson** - October 11, 2015 at 04:02 PM

 Mo Reintjes

“ Denise touched the hearts and lives of so many families of the missing, mine included. I know she is watching over us from heaven. I'll so miss our phone calls, emails and the hours and hours we spent online on Second Life. The Project Jason Keys to Healing Retreat next summer will not be the same without her there but I know she will be there in spirit and her work will be present throughout. Forever will she be missed but so grateful she is no longer in pain and is surrounded by beauty as she is so worthy of.

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**Mo Reintjes** - October 08, 2015 at 11:06 PM

MS

“ *Losing Denise came as a shock and I'm having a bit of trouble processing the grief, for she is part of me in very special way... part of my youth...but I can say, though words are difficult now, that she is a song eternal in my heart. My love to Bill and Shirley...and Shirley, you too have a place in my heart. Denise's great soul reflects yours. Love to you both.*



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**Maggi Smith-Dalton** - October 08, 2015 at 05:23 AM

MH

“ *I am still trying to process a world without Denise. Such a generous, beautiful soul. My life is brighter because I knew her.*

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**Malinda Hoyt** - October 07, 2015 at 09:41 PM

KM

“ *When I was young, I asked God to send give me a sister. Many years later, He did. Denise was not a sister in the biological sense, but in every other way. We shared everything, could finish each other's sentences, talked for hours nonstop and never finished, and were always there for each other in good times and bad.*

*I wish I had her in my life longer, but am grateful for each and every moment I had.*

*Read more here: <http://projectjason.org/forums/topic/3955-in-loving-memory-of-denise-harrison-project-jason-board-member-and-friend/>*

*Kelly Murphy*

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**Kelly Murphy** - October 06, 2015 at 09:50 PM

LD

“ *May God provide strength and comfort for Denise's family and loved ones. She did so much with her time on this earth...may she rest peacefully. My sincere condolences. Lori Davis*

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**Lori Davis** - October 06, 2015 at 08:18 PM

DR

*I believe we met Denise at our first retreat. She was such a great, caring gal...she we be greatly missed.*

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**Donna Ross** - October 11, 2015 at 07:19 PM

DS

*So very sorry to hear about Denise. I know she was a very kind and caring person. Her life was full of her dedication to people and her love for animals. Our sincere condolences. Diane and Jack Sullivan 10-12-15*

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**Diane Sullivan** - October 12, 2015 at 03:55 PM