

Louise M. Adams

June 12, 1942 - March 26, 2020

Louise M. Polosky Adams, 77, of Asheville, unexpectedly and tragically left us on March 26, 2020. She is survived by five sisters: Patricia Sutliff, Janet McWilliams, Rita Cornell, Lucy Kender (Andy), and Connie Horka; her children Robin McCollough (Mark), Dan Adams (Lori) and Renee LaBaw (Danny); her beloved grandchildren Brett (Lindsay), Riley, Hannah, Jesse, Madison, Robert, Thomas, Emma and Benjamin; and her treasured great grandchildren Maverick, Rowan and Grey. She was predeceased in life by her parents Helen and John Polosky, brother Thomas Polosky (Mary Ellen) youngest daughter Rhonda Jordan (Todd), her former spouse and father of her children, Bob Adams, and perhaps the most important influence in her life, her adored Uncle Tony ("Deacon") Yeash.

The tragic circumstances of the pandemic prevented us all from gathering in the way we would have liked. Deepest appreciation to Steven at Highlands Cremation and Funeral Care for arranging a livestream viewing of our beloved mother, sister and friend allowing those from far away as Berlin to see her one last time. When our world returns to normal we will plan a celebration of her life befitting the kind of woman she was.

Louise was the grandmother people dream about having. She was a confidante, best friend and partner in crime to binge watch Netflix and make chocolate chip pancakes at 2:00 a.m. She was by all accounts one of the

most unconventional people you could ever meet. She loved to invent things, to watch really scary movies, and preferred listening to it rain over a sunny day. She's the person you hear about, but don't think really exists, who would offer you anything she owned if she suspected you liked or needed it. If you were cold, you'd be wearing her coat. She had virtually no use for material possessions and was perfectly selfless. People might spend their lives practicing meditation or how to give their full attention to someone. She did this effortlessly, especially with her grandchildren, in a way that was simply too complete to express here. She could rock a baby for hours on end, or through the night if needed, and literally taught her weeks old grandson how to hum back at her. She once let her creative 8 year old granddaughter cut and style her beautiful hair with tiny 4th of July flags.

Her life's work was a complete and unshakable devotion to her children and grandchildren. She worked without complaint in a variety of settings over the years to make this happen: accounting at a bank, waitressing at a country club, and cleaning houses, often all three at once if that's what it took to keep her 4 children going.

It's devastating to think of life ahead without her stories, her impromptu dancing and her love of music. Her once comical signature trademarks are now treasured memories: quirky crafts, dreams of an Ebay store though she never quite mastered how to easily send an email, singing off key to country, Cajun, Polish, pop, and even the occasional rap song, and games she spent hours constructing to play at holidays. Our great challenge ahead will be how to negotiate this world without her. She wouldn't want anyone spending a minute being sad over her, so we will find a way. We love you, Ne-Ne.

Tribute Wall



“ Louise M. Adams

October 09, 2023 at 01:52 AM



“ Louise M. Adams

October 08, 2023 at 10:49 PM



“ Louise M. Adams

October 24, 2022 at 11:11 PM



“ Sweet McCollough Family, I know each one of you loved her dearly and each of you has some fun tale to share about this wonderful woman. Lauren adored her and often came home from sleepovers with anecdotes that made me smile. She truly felt loved and I hope that brings you some small comfort. I know it is hard to wrangle in the sorrow nor should you. Your tears are testimonies to your deep love for her. There will never be a day you don't miss her but you DO carry a part of her within you. Share your stories. We want to hear them.

winslow - April 13, 2020 at 12:13 PM



Thank you so much Winslow. She loved dotting on Lauren. I sometimes forget how much she was involved by extension in the lives of kids who were friends with mine. I am so happy Lauren has such wonderful memories of her.

Robin A. McCollough - April 19, 2020 at 07:19 PM

YA

“ I remember your mother as a very strong-intelligent-and beautiful woman. She always cared for others and she was the perfect partner for your father we all know he could be a handful. I see many traits of your mother in all of you. I am very sorry to hear of her passing but the joy I remember when I think of her will stay with always. I love you all please take care of your selves and if you need help let me know. Yewell Jr

Yewell adams - April 05, 2020 at 03:05 PM

RM

Thank you so much Yewell Jr. She shared lots of good times with your mom back in the day. I hope you all are staying safe.

Robin A. McCollough - April 19, 2020 at 07:20 PM

RT

“ Once upon a time many, many years ago, when Robin and I were suffering through law school, I met Ne-Ne on a visit to her home in Jacksonville. I was lucky to experience firsthand her magical ability to conjure up a gourmet meal (after a long work day) then, and many more times after. Over the years, I saw how essential she was to every stage of Robin's and all of her children's and grandchildren's lives. She had a remarkable ability to immerse herself in and encourage children to follow their dreams and develop their talents. I still remember the story about how she let a very young Madison (the budding artist and stylist) cut and style her hair with miniature flags on the 4th of July! I hope to be that kind of grandmother someday, and I pray that you all will comfort and love each other through this unbearable loss.

Rives Trigoboff - March 31, 2020 at 01:27 PM

RM

Rives thanks so much for sharing this story. It really made me laugh out loud which was nice for a change. Mom would love that story too. I had forgotten about it. But I can see her just going along with whatever Madison was cooking up. It reminds me of when I went to pick Madison and Hannah up at Mom's house in Albany, and they were about 6 or 7. They were in the front yard playing with a water hose making mud. They had covered their whole bodies completely with mud, along with the white pillars of mom's house (as far as they could reach.) They were using the pillars as a canvas to finger paint. Mom was just sitting to the side with the hose helping them make more mud as needed.

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 08:49 AM

AP

“*Like the Reader's Digest feature My Most Unforgettable Character - surely Louise was mine! She had many talents - a chef ala Chez Louise, creator of stories "Pet Tails" as well crafts - think flower pots! She was a fierce gamer (old school where players were present using hands-on pieces!), a great teacher, cheerleader, dancer, always learning and inquisitive. Louise had a bottom line/no nonsense spirit which was balanced by her deep love of family. Babies were mesmerized with her - she had that wonderful look that said "I'll take care of you" and she did. I miss you my friend.*

Angela Price - March 30, 2020 at 04:26 PM

RM

Yes she was an unforgettable character! It will live on in her grandchildren and great grandchildren that the two of you shared.

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 08:54 AM

KR

“ Louise “Nini “ was a dedicated mother to her children And grandchildren. She was always in Robin and Mark’s kitchen asking somebody if they would like anything to eat. She was very creative and resourceful. She was a very unique individual in that she made those around her feel supported and cared for.

I was lucky to have known her. I was lucky to have been one of those people she fussed over.

karen rose - March 29, 2020 at 09:23 PM

RM

Thank you Karen. She did fuss over us, didn't she?

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 08:57 AM

SN

“ Aunt louise was the one I will always remember, she always cared about the other person. I still remember the time with lived with you all in florida after we moved back to the states. Then she let me live with you all in the apartment in Jacksonville when I moved down for my first job after school. She was the best. Love from Stephen Adam's and the rest of my bunch.

Stephen Adams- nephew - March 29, 2020 at 02:28 PM

RM

We would often reminisce about how the Adams clan living with us in that tiny house in Florida was the happiest summer we ever had. Can you imagine how our parents managed having to deal with NINE kids in the confines of that space? (Maybe 8, bc I can't seem to remember if Peter was with us, but still.) Feeding us? Where did we sleep? All I remember was playing tag, putting on plays and laughing. That is a tribute to both my mom and yours.

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 09:01 AM

MB

“ Family



Michelle Burrie - March 29, 2020 at 01:37 PM

RM

Missie thanks so much for sharing these wonderful pictures.

Robin A. McCollough - April 19, 2020 at 07:22 PM

AC

“ *This was the last time I saw Aunt Louisey. Feb 28, 2018. I can still remember her sitting at Aunt Pats table sharing a game she wanted to play with us. I remember her laughing. And I always remembered her laugh, it was so unique, and so genuine. I was hoping she'd one day meet my Aayla girl. Thoughts and prayers sent from Maryland.*



Ashley Cornell - March 29, 2020 at 01:00 PM

RM

Always loved the quote that you sometimes never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory. I am so happy this was a happy time that you all shared. She loved to show me pictures of your baby and remark about how cute she was!

Robin A. McCollough - April 19, 2020 at 07:24 PM

E(

“ 5 files added to the tribute wall



Erin Smith (Kender) - March 29, 2020 at 12:21 PM

RM

Erin thanks so much for sharing these pictures. I remember your wedding like it was yesterday, and all the great times we had at reunions over the years.

Robin A. McCollough - April 19, 2020 at 07:25 PM

E(

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Erin Smith (Kender) - March 29, 2020 at 12:20 PM

RM

Mom was a beautiful woman!

Robin A. McCollough - April 19, 2020 at 07:26 PM

E(

“ *Fond memories* ❤️



Erin Smith (Kender) - March 29, 2020 at 12:18 PM

MB

“ *Family*



Michelle Burrie - March 29, 2020 at 11:54 AM

MB

“ *Nothing is as special as a sister's love.*



Michelle Burrie - March 29, 2020 at 11:52 AM

EA

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Emma Adams - March 29, 2020 at 11:23 AM

JB

“ My favorite memory of NeNe was about 8 years ago, when we were hosting the leader of the Palliative Care Association of Zambia to our town. Our organization, Four Seasons was debuting a film, that we had made in Zambia to highlight the need of palliative care for those with serious illnesses. Robbins and I decided to have a pre-film party. (those of you who know us see the problem in that!) Neither of us know how to cook for the masses and trying to coordinate about 150 people in our home (in the hood) was daunting. It helps to have neighbors that are good friends and have talents that you don't. We wanted a themed party with eclectic foods and decorations. I roped Robin into sharing her wisdom of doing things “big.” (I do think she inherited her creative spirit from her mom!) Before I knew it, NeNe suddenly appeared out of nowhere. She somehow “knew” how to cook for the masses. The night was one I will always remember with fondness – bright colors of Africa, incredible dishes, and many coming together to raise money to train doctors on hospice and palliative care. And there was NeNe – grease all over her, hair disheveled, pants rolled up (yes one may have been up more than the other) sweat pouring down her brow, and totally in command in our kitchen. (of course, she brought her big pans, utensils, etc; as our supplies were nonexistent) After the party, we all went to Christ School to watch the film. I tried to get NeNe to come with us, but she would have none of it. There was a massive amount of clean up to do and she was hell bent on a mission. When we came home the kitchen was spotless. (I mean better way better than after I clean up) When I thanked her the following day, she kind of shrugged it off, like no big deal, that's what I do. This story exemplifies the kind of person she was – possessing a huge heart that embraced all, and a purpose deeply embedded on caring for others. She was one of the most unique human beings I've ever met; the world needs more like her. To my beautiful McCollough family – I see parts of her in all of you. She will live on through you and through the memories you shared; may you feel her presence in your life. We love you all. Robbins and Janet

janet bull - March 29, 2020 at 08:50 AM

FB

“ Louise has been in my life as long as Robin has since our days at Bishop Kenny. I had small injections of NeNe for some 40 years. When Robin and I talk, we always speak of our moms with love and affection. I remember Louise as a beautiful person who loved her family beyond words. She was generous, caring, fun loving, and definitely original. I remember times when I brought my young daughter up to Asheville and she included Abby as part of her family. My memories of NeNe are shrouded by love and laughter. From helping the kids catch fire flies in mason jars on warm summer nights, to making up skits for them to act out in the living room, to helping them with lemonade stands in the neighborhood, NeNe was always entertaining the children. One time, when Thomas, Jesse, and Abby were selling lemonade down the street, NeNe found out about a bear sighting nearby and told them. Those kids were so scared that they bolted for home, abandoning their lemonade stand for the bear. She had a way of adding just the right amount of humor to every situation. I will always cherish my memories of Louise and her beautiful spirit. She will truly be missed.

My sincere condolences,

Faye

Faye Bishop - March 28, 2020 at 10:47 PM

KM

“ Robin, I remember your mom's fun loving spirit when she was here in Albany! So very sorry for your loss. Kathy Mendenhall

kathy mendenhall - March 28, 2020 at 06:00 PM

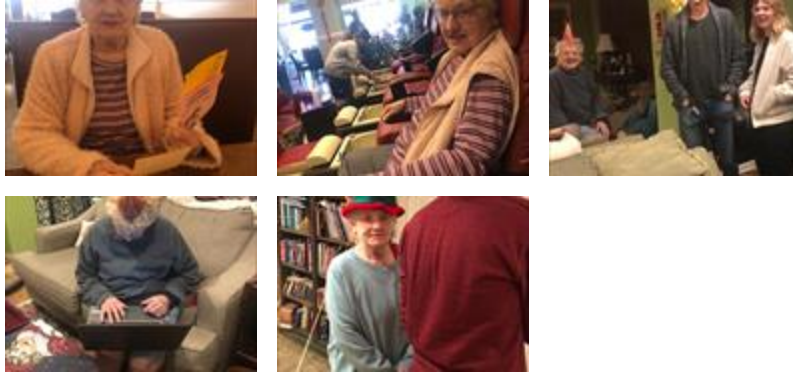
RM

Thank you so much Kathy. Hope you and your family are staying safe in Albany.

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 10:26 AM



“ 19 files added to the album Photos



Madison McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 04:42 PM

RM

Mom in pink is where I took her out for Valentine's Day for lunch at Chai Pani, followed by pedicure manicure. She loovvved getting super long gel nails, but her real nails couldn't take it and she had to settle for the basic. I remember looking over at her the first time we were getting gel nails, and she waived these long pink talons over at me. She'd always drum them on a surface and say with pride, "Aunt Janet and me always wanted these." She was such an enigma, wasn't she???

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 10:25 AM

PR

“ Love, blessings, and deepest sympathy to the family of Louise Adams. May beautiful memories bring you peace and comfort in your grief.

Pat Ready - March 28, 2020 at 04:19 PM

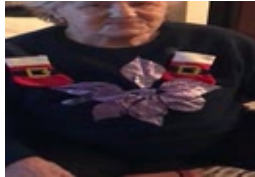
RM

Thank you so much Pat...

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 10:21 AM



“ 4 files added to the album Videos



Madison McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 04:16 PM

RM

Maddie of course you post the best stuff, including Ne Ne with the monkey filter. Remember how those made her laugh so much???? I love seeing how sweet you were to her in these videos where she was making her avant garde creations such as an ugly sweater by taping on random decorations, never bothering to hide the tape. And of course she was in hog heaven with Robert pushing her around in that wheel chair. She was the queen!

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 10:20 AM

SS

“ My favorite memory of Ne Ne was the first time I met her. Faye and I were coming up to visit Robin. We stopped at the house and to Faye and my surprise, she made us white chili. I never had it before and I can tell you it was the best!!! Over the next year or so, I kept trying white chili. None of them were like hers! The next time I came up, I asked her about it and she said it was nothing special. Well to me it was, it was full of love! Love was her secret ingredient. That is what she did!! Ne Ne did everything out of love for everyone. She loved her family very much. It was so apparent that when she would talk about you, you all were her world! We all could see and feel the love she had for each one of you. I hope you can find some comfort in knowing that. Ne Ne will always be in our hearts and she will be missed! Love to all and God Bless,
Sheryl



Sheryl Suto - March 28, 2020 at 03:37 PM



Thank you so much for writing this Sheryl. It really made me smile. God knows we'll miss Ne Ne's chili. <3

Madison McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 03:59 PM

RM

Sheryl, Mom loved seeing me have such great friends like you. It really made her happy. She would always light up talking about all the fun things that you Faye and I did together. Thanks for sharing this memory.

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 10:18 AM

E(

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Erin Smith (Kender) - March 28, 2020 at 03:11 PM



Ne Ne really knew how to smile!!!!

Madison McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 04:00 PM

E(

That is what I loved most about these photos. I can hear her laugh and her smile was infectious. ❤️

Erin Smith (Kender) - March 28, 2020 at 07:08 PM

RM

She would always rise to the mood you were in. If you felt like cutting up and laughing, she'd be right there to join in.

Robin A. McCollough - April 03, 2020 at 10:15 AM

“ Dear Friends and Family of our Beloved Louise, or Ne Ne,

If you could compare the funeral of any celebrity or prominent figure in our world, perhaps with hundreds or thousands of people in attendance, it couldn't compare with the outpouring of love we have had from the perhaps modest in comparison by numbers who were lucky to have her in their life. When my 17 year old son was saying his goodbye at her bedside he told Ne, who is 60 years older, that she was his best friend, and that she was a "celebrity" at his school. I wanted to share just one letter I got from my daughter's fiance. She and Hugo live in Berlin. Thank goodness Hugo got to meet Mom last year when they came to visit. To her loving sisters who knew her from the beginning of her life, to those that just met her, and everyone in between, thank you all for your love and support. I promise you that Ne Ne was delighted to have you in her life. Robin

Dear Dr. McCollough; Mrs. McCollough; Rob and Thomas,

I hope this message finds you well. I heard about the news through Maddie, and have been listening to the updates as it unfolded. I am so very sorry for your loss. These are incredibly difficult times, and I would like you to know that my heart goes out to your family.

I would also like you to know that I will take care of Maddie here in Berlin, and you have nothing to worry about. We are safe and sound, and we're planning to keep it that way.

In memory of the gentle soul introduced to me as the Big Noot, and in celebration of the person she was, I can clearly state that she was one of a kind. In the short span of three days, she made a big impression on me. Though I had just met her, I feel as though I've known her for years.

She was quirky, she greeted me first with a hug. I remember seeing her with one pant leg up, energetically buzzing about looking for cards to play nertz. She was magically pulling food out of nowhere to feed me with, and she handled babies (sweet little Grey) with

surprisingly surgical precision.

More importantly, however, she was kind. She would put complete strangers before herself, and I got the feeling that the Big Noot I was talking to was 100%, authentically Big Noot. Down to earth, humble, caring, and unforgettable. The world needs more Noots. I felt incredibly honored to have been able to meet her in my lifetime.

My deepest condolences for your family's loss,

Warmest regards,

Hugo

Robin A. McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 12:29 PM



“*Robin, Mark and family, I am so sorry for your loss. We will be keeping you in our thoughts and prayers. Sending you much love. Andria, Chris, Evan, Dillyn, Emma and Grace.*

Andria Auker-Tykoocki - March 28, 2020 at 12:13 PM

RM

Thank you so much!! Love Robin and family

Robin A. McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 01:07 PM



We love you Aunt Andria. Thank you so much!

Madison McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 04:29 PM

DA

“ Where do I begin sharing my fond memories of my beautiful Aunt Louise... she came into the Adams family many many years ago marrying the youngest Adams son Robert D. Adams, my infamous Uncle Bob. There are so many stories to tell about their journey together including the one that sticks out in my mind about Uncle Bob riding my horse and Aunt Louise videoing this. Uncle Bob fell off, but Aunt Louise continued rolling the film! After all was said and done, and we made sure Uncle Bob was ok, his remark to Aunt Louise was, (and I can hear it now) “ Baby, any other good wife woukk LJ d have run to her husband’s rescue, but NOOOO, you continued to video it all”... I can hear us all laughing right now and Aunt Louise laughing as she said, “ Well Bob, this is priceless and I know your tall self isn’t hurt! You didn’t fall that far” LOL

Aunt Louise was a loving, caring lady who loved life and her family and always made sure her children were taken care of. I wasn’t named after her, however it was so ironic to me we do share the same name.. I am Debra Louise , and they named their first born Robin Louise... what a connection!

Robin, Dan, Renee and your families, my heart is broken. We do have terrific memories to hang on tol know your Mom is rejoicing in heaven and was welcomed with open arms by God and all of our loved ones that were already there! Much love to you all and know we will celebrate her life and the impact she had on us all throughout our lives here on Earth.

Much love to you all,

*Debra Louise Adams
Niece*

Debra Loyise Adams - March 28, 2020 at 10:02 AM



*What a wonderful story Debbie... I can just see them out there filming.
Love you cuz!*

Robin A. McCollough - March 28, 2020 at 12:37 PM