



Alexis D. Teitz

December 21, 1945 - May 28, 2014

Exeter - Known to many as Lexi since childhood, Alexis Dale Teitz passed away peacefully at home in Exeter, New Hampshire, on May 28, 2014. She had lived in Exeter since 2004, and before that in York Beach, Maine, and Cornish, NH.

Lexi was born in Newport, Rhode Island, December 21, 1945, to Judge Alexander and Mrs. (Lucille Feinstein) Teitz. She attended local schools, graduating from Rogers High School, where she played on the women's basketball team, and then from Goucher College in Towson, Maryland. In 1967 she moved to New York and entered Macy's Executive Training Program, later working in Manhattan as a buyer in millinery and women's wear. While at Macy's she received many outstanding performance awards.

In the early 1970s, Lexi met the love of her life, William (Bill) Gersumky. They were married in 1973. Bill was a petrochemical engineer, and he and Lexi traveled frequently to Brazil for business and pleasure, where she prided herself on her fluency in Portuguese. In Manhattan, Lexi worked as a researcher for the Foundation Center, the leading source for information about philanthropy worldwide. She was a principal author of several publications for the Center in the 1970s and early 1980s.

In 1979, Lexi and Bill moved to Cornish, where they had a summer house.

They made it a year-round home and acquired the first of several golden retrievers that became her daily companions. Bill worked in hospital fund-raising, and Lexi entered the Master of Arts and Liberal Studies (M.A.L.S.) program at Dartmouth College, writing her thesis on the works of Virginia Wolff and Alice Walker (Developing Feminine Voices: Spirituality and Selfhood in *To the Lighthouse* and *The Color Purple*). Until Bill's death in 1991 they were very active in community affairs.

After coming to Exeter, Lexi enrolled in ChIME, the Chaplaincy Institute of Maine, and after completing a two-year curriculum that included an internship at the Merrimack Valley Hospital and a trip to the Dominican Republic, she was ordained as an Interfaith Minister in 2011. Lexi served in hospitals and also helped as a volunteer assistant in local elementary schools until her last illness. Lexi also taught several Adult Education courses in the Seacoast area on poetry, literature, and journaling.

A highlight of Lexi's years in Exeter and York Beach was her participation with *Voices from the Heart*, a 200-member women's chorus. She sang at many regional presentations and toured with *Voices* to the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland in 2001.

In addition to her husband, Lexi was predeceased by her parents and an infant son, Maxwell Gersumky. She leaves behind her brothers, Richard, San Antonio, TX; Andrew (wife Lois), Barrington, RI; and sister, Louise Ellen, Bristol, RI. Other survivors include her nieces and nephew: Rebecca Ackerman, Cresskill, NJ; Jessie Becker (husband Travis), Palo Alto, CA; Alexander Teitz, Denver CO; Elizabeth Teitz and Alexandra Teitz, Barrington, RI; her four grandnephews, Joshua and Daniel Ackerman, Zachary and Samuel Becker; and Rosie, her last golden retriever.

Lexi's family is grateful to her many friends who surrounded her with love and

care in her last months. Those wishing to remember her may make a donation to Voices from the Heart, CHIME, or the charity of their choice.

In accordance with her wishes, a memorial service will be held on Saturday, June 14, at 3:30 PM at South Church, 292 State Street, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. There will be a reception in the Parish Hall afterward.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 14. 3:30 PM (ET)

South Church
292 State Street
Portsmouth, NH

Tribute Wall



“ *Alexis D. Teitz*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *To the Teitz Family,*

My Sincere condolences for your loss. I had the opportunity to share dinner and catch at last summer's RHS reunion. May Lexi Rest In Peace In Hanks of God.

Fred Amaral

Fred Amaral - June 13, 2014 at 12:09 PM

TK

“ Dear Louise,

I am so very sorry to hear of your sister's passing.

"A sister us one of the nicest things that can happen to anyone. She is someone to laugh with and share with, to work with and join in the fun. She is someone who helps in the rough times and knows when you need a warm smile. She is someone who will quietly listen when you just want to talk for awhile. A sister is dear to you always, for she is someone who is always a part of all the favorite memories that you keep very close to your heart."

Louise, our hearts go out to you and your family.

With Love, Thoughts and Prayers,

Theresa, Joe, Tara and Justin Kruczek

Theresa Kruczek - June 10, 2014 at 01:04 PM

LI

“ Dear Richard. Andrew, and Louise,

So sorry to hear about your beloved sister Lexi. My Mom used to take care of you all She was Louise Maxson. She thought of your family as an extension of our's. She really had a wonderful life and did many great things. As children we have no idea where we will be or what we will do. The heart takes over and leads us. It looks from all that was said that Lexi left this earth a better place for her loving and caring way. I'm sure her spirit will live on forever. With deep condolences to all. Linda(Maxson) Irish and family.

linda irish - June 05, 2014 at 10:23 AM

RT

Thank you Linda for thinking of us. I have fond memories of your mother and her patience with us. Best, Richard

Richard Teitz - June 12, 2014 at 01:12 PM

RC

“ *I have just learned of my dear friend Lexi whom I loved very much passed. We loved each other so much in so many way's. She was a cool hip loving mother figure to me with no judgements and all compassion to me. I was a spiritual teacher to her who accepted her with love and compassion as a teacher and student. We swapped roles all the time as to who was teaching who. I met Lexi when she was living in Cornish. It was there we discovered we shared the same dream of living on the ocean. She grew up in RI so she was returning, it was only a fantasy for me. We dreamed together about how we could make living on the ocean a reality. She made that dream happen and I didn't. It was hard and complicated leaving Cornish but the only real fear she had about leaving the Upper Valley was leaving all of her friends because she had so many friends who loved her here! I told her where ever she went she would be loved! And she was! I missed her SO. We always sheared our dreams and love for life. She always validated and encouraged me to do my most couragous acts in life and I encouraged her. I became a therapist with her encouragement. I became an Ordained interfaith minister with her encouragement and I have become a more compassionate, fully grateful person in knowing this dear friend. I have so many stories and so many good memories of being with and sharing with Lexi! I feel so very grateful in finding her on my life path. In loving memory, Robyn Carpenter*

Rev. Robyn Carpenter - June 01, 2014 at 07:37 AM

MG

So sorry to hear of my schoolmate's death. So glad I had the opportunity to see her last summer. She was a brilliant student, and we shared many laughs, including the one and only time we walked home from Rogers High School - a three mile walk - in our senior year. Many condolences to her family. Maureen (Rusty) Gray Girr.

Maureen Girr - June 03, 2014 at 09:32 PM