



BARBARA JEAN PRESTON

October 21, 1949 - March 1, 2008

Barbara Jean Preston was one of those rare individuals with an insatiable curiosity about the people and things in her world. She was the third child of Dennis and Marion PRESTON who grew up in the suburbs of Detroit in the 1950's. She was determined to shrug off the establishment ethos of the day, and explore her artistic gifts and to learn about people and why they are the way they are. She obtained degrees in both Art History and Psychology at U of M before obtaining a third degree in computer graphics prior to pursuing her career as a software developer in Rochester NY and in Bellevue, WA.

Barbara was a keen student of the human condition and supported causes dear to her heart such as women's equality, gay rights and protested governmental actions on a regular basis.

Not least amongst her loves was that of animals, and dearest amongst them was her beloved cat Raskol. Raskol was her companion for many years, traveled everywhere with her, taught to do tricks and even appeared on TV. When Raskol finally passed away it left a hole in her life that was never truly filled.

Barbara never married or had a family of her own; perhaps she never met the perfect person, but never lacked a date for a special occasion. Her curiosity about the human condition and the world in general sparked her desire to see the world and the people it. She was an avid world traveler and made friends wherever she went. Undoubtedly they too saw the witty, creative and adventurous Barbara that her family knew and loved.

Prior to her death, her most recent interest was in taking a class on documentary filmmaking. She enjoyed taking photos and videos and often interviewed family members during our annual family reunions.

Her family feels that she would be very pleased to know that a stipend is being offered in her name to assist aspiring documentary filmmakers.