



Laura Jean Kleiber Yavelow

Medical & Publishing Professional

Laura Jean Kleiber Yavelow, a medical technologist and epidemiologist died unexpectedly of a rare neurological disease at Solace Hospice on July 16, 2014. She was 63 years old and lived in Skyland, North Carolina.

She was an immunization consultant for the NC-DHS (14 years) before founding a clinical research monitoring company devoted to studies in infectious disease, vaccines, and cardiology (15 years). Recently, she has been an editor, including Executive Editor for the Camino Quarterly.

Born in Baltimore County, MD, Laura was a graduate of Dulaney High School, Towson University (Magna cum laude), and the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where she received her master's degree in Epidemiology and Health Planning & Administration. She was a member of Beta Beta Beta, Phi Theta Kappa, and Pi Lambda Theta.

Laura served on the Asheville Tree Commission for six years, and, at the time of her death, she was Vice President of the Asheville Gideons Auxiliary.

She loved singing and dancing, both as a spectator and as a performer. In Asheville, she performed in the musical *Quilters* and was a former member of WomanSong. She enjoyed being an extra in movies filmed in and around Asheville, and she was one of the ballroom dancers in the movie *Dirty Dancing*.

In 2008, she reconnected with Chris Yavelow at their high school reunion. The couple had grown up two blocks apart and attended the same schools since 1st grade, usually seated next to one another. In their years apart they had developed identical interests, habits, and beliefs and were truly soulmates. They married in 2009 and traveled extensively in the USA, the Caribbean, Central America, and Europe. Avid hikers, they walked much of the Camino de Santiago in Spain in 2012.

Laura is also survived by her mother Frances Clark Kleiber of Lutherville, MD, sisters Lisa Thom and Julie Ensor, nieces Brittanie Thom and Nikki Gulgun, nephew Randall Thom, and stepdaughters Celina and Stephanie Yavelow. Her father Kenneth Kleiber and sister Judy Kleiber Gulgun preceded her in death.

Services will be held at 11:00 AM on Saturday, July 26, at Groce Funeral Home, 72 Long Shoals Rd. in Arden. The family will receive guests starting at 10:00 AM.

In lieu of flowers, the family graciously asks that you consider a contribution in Laura's memory to

THE GIDEONS INTERNATIONAL, PO Box 1506, Asheville, NC 28802

or THE CREUTZFELDT-JAKOB DISEASE FOUNDATION, 341 W. 38th St., Suite 501, New York, NY 10018.