



A spark of joy and light went out in the world when Mary Cay Hollander-Russell lost her hard-fought battle with the scourge of cancer on Sept 10th, 2021. In the prime of her 75th year, Mary Cay was still bringing smiles and happiness to everyone she met, either on the streets of her home town in Santa Fe, New Mexico, or practicing her passion for learning while traveling the world with her photographer husband of 37 years, Ward Russell. She was always ready to lend a helping hand and never found a day complete until she had learned something new.

Mary Cay Hollander-Russell 5/24/1946 - 9/10/2021

An only child, she learned to march to her own drummer. After a taste of college, she found working in a law firm in Los Angeles for ten years much more challenging. Having risen from intern to office manager to paralegal, and about to go for her law degree, she was given a brief opportunity to work on a Hollywood motion picture production. The next twenty years were filled with dozens of major movies as a Production Coordinator, the heartbeat of a movie company. It was her job, along with the Production Manager, to make sure that all of the behind-the-scenes workings of the twenty some technical departments were kept running smoothly and all the needs and desires of the actors and actresses were met.

Having conquered Hollywood, Mary Cay, at fifty, completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and Social Work followed by a Masters of Arts in Education at the College of Santa Fe New Mexico. Her ability to communicate inspiringly with all kinds of people was put to good use helping the needy of New Mexico while continuing to help the growing film industry in New Mexico.

Mary Cay and Ward's love of New Mexico and their desire to travel, for knowledge and pleasure, made it an easy decision to refocus Ward's passion for photography from Hollywood cinematography to Santa Fe still photography. The last fifteen years have found them ever together, traveling to the far corners of the world, learning, laughing, loving and taking world class photographs to supply the ever increasing demand at their WARD RUSSELL Gallery of Photography in Santa Fe.

Mary Cay is survived by her loving husband Ward Russell, devoted cat Calli, loving families around the States and an enormous amount of loving friends around the world who will always remember her as that very special person who brought a very special happiness into their lives.

Thank you for the kind attention of Ambercare Hospice and El Castillo Medical Facility.

Any tributes should be directed toward proving Mary Cay's faith
in the potential goodness of All mankind.

A celebration of life will be held at a later time.