



Lorna Areda Kepes

November 18, 1945 - April 30, 2024

Lorna Areda (Hinton) Kepes, 78, of Pelham, passed away peacefully in her home on Tuesday April 30, 2024, surrounded by her loving family. She was born in Manchester, England on November 18, 1945, to the late George and Victoria (Stevens) Hinton.

As a child, she grew up in remote mining camps in Northern Mexico which instilled in her a lasting affinity for the culture and soul of Mexico. She attended Verde Valley High School in Arizona, and then studied at San Francisco State College, Mexico City College and the Museum School in Boston. She worked as the Director of El Arco Iris, an after-school youth art program in Holyoke, and as a social worker for Childrens' Aid and Family Services and Sisters of Providence. Along with her husband, Imre Kepes, she founded the GuateMaya Art and Culture Connection, a project that supports indigenous Mayan artists and artisans of Guatemala through fair trade sales of their arts and crafts in the United States at exhibits and outlets including the Cultural Survival Bazaars, other art and craft fairs, galleries, and local coffee shops. The project also promoted cultural exchange by bringing the artists and artisans to the United States to share their art and culture. She developed lasting connections with many of the artists and their families during yearly visits to the indigenous communities around Lake Atitlan. Lorna was also a visionary artist best known for her vibrant highly decorated pottery and was a member of the Asparagus Valley Potters Guild and the Leverett Crafts and Arts Center. Artistic expression was in her blood, and she enjoyed sketching,

drawing, painting, writing and journaling at every opportunity she had. She later went on to write, illustrate and publish a guide of life lessons and personal growth titled "Recipes for a Delectable Life".

She is survived by her loving and devoted husband of 48 years, Imre Kepes of Pelham, her four boys, Pablo Hopman of Carlisle, MA, Sterling Hopman, of Bocas Del Toro, Panama, Quinn Kepes of Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, and Gyuri Kepes of Northampton, MA, along with seven grandchildren, her sister, Joan Hinton of Southport, ME, and nieces and nephews. She is remembered by friends far and wide for her brilliant smile, infectious laugh, radiant personality, and free spirit.

Besides her parents, she was predeceased by her brother Steve Hinton.

All services will be private and at the convenience of the family. DROZDAL FUNERAL HOME OF NORTHAMPTON has been entrusted with her care.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to: The Verde Valley School, Native American Scholarship Fund (see at: <https://www.vvsaz.org/support-vvs/how-to-give>)

For more information or to leave the family a personal condolence or memory please visit Drozdalfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

LE

“ Lorna - thank you for being like a mama, and yet still somehow like a sister - auntie and friend to me. I never got to truly know well or get close to my birth mama after 30 years apart after adoption, then more distance, you were a little older than her, yet also you were younger than my mom who raised me. Somehow you made me feel seen, cared for, and valuable on this planet in ways I did not fully know before. You have the ability to see people's souls. Yes, present tense, still do. I love you forever. Your little beaded hummingbird hangs in my car mirror, I see it every day and think of you. Paintings from Lake Atitlan in my kitchen and dining room remind me of your love and passion for people, culture, art, Guatemala, land, and love for everyone. <3 Thank you for being you... <3

Leigh - October 11, 2025 at 02:35 PM

LR

“ Lorna, (my same name), would always be around...not gone. I just read the paper and found I was wrong, and am shocked. She would always give me that big happy smile, happy to say hello, and we'd catch up. She will stay locked in my mind as the real fine person I knew her to be. I am very sad, and sad for all her family. She was such a good soul and doing good in the world, connecting cultures and loving people, especially her family. My heart breaks for All of you. Love, Lorna

Lorna Ritz - May 03, 2024 at 05:04 PM

AB

“ *My heartfelt condolences to all of you! I remember Lorna as a beautifully radiant person with a laugh that inspired joy, May you find the support you need in processing the loss of your Lorna and find comfort in the memories of her being in this world and the love, joy, art and vision she brought to it.*
Annique

Annique Boomsma - May 03, 2024 at 12:03 PM