



Mary Inez Thornton-Vogel

June 28, 1954 - August 22, 2019

LTC Mary Inez “Mit” Thornton-Vogel, US Army, Retired passed away Thursday, August 22, 2019 at her new home in Newnan, GA. Mary Inez was born June 28, 1954 at Valley Forge Army Hospital in Pennsylvania to the late Colonel Joseph Ambrus Thornton, Sr. and Virginia Garrison Thornton. As a child Mit traveled with her family to Ft. Bragg, NC, Springfield, VA, Seoul, Korea and Cookeville, TN where Colonel Thornton taught military science at Tennessee Tech. As a young child she had a radiant smile and bushy blond hair and was adored by her parents and older siblings. The family settled in Atlanta, GA in 1965. Mit graduated from Ridgeview High School in Atlanta. One of her favorite pastimes was caring for the horses belonging to the SCLC. After graduating from the Medical College of Georgia in 1976 she entered the army as an occupational therapist. She cared for a wide spectrum of patients and developed a passion for helping children. Her favorite assignments were in Honolulu, HI and Landstuhl, Germany. She also served at Ft. Benning in Georgia and Walter Reed AMC in Washington, D.C. Before attaining the rank of major she earned her master’s degree from RPI in Troy, NY. While living in Albany, NY she met her husband to be Donald Vogel. They were next door neighbors and became lifetime companions. Mit and Don were married in Kaneohe, HI in 1986. They had a passion for the natural beauty of Maine so when Mit retired from Ft. Knox, KY in 1996 they moved to Portland. Mit was the senior occupational therapist at the Spurwink School for 17 years. She worked with children and mentored two generations of young therapists that

affectionately call her “mom”. With her charming wit and infectious smile she made many, many close friends. She nurtured many long distance relationships with her cheerful notes and cards about the people and things that she loved. Her ideal day would be to sip tea in a beautiful garden filled with songbirds and butterflies. Later she would write a stack of post cards to tell everyone about how wonderful it was. Mit was unique and is cherished by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband of 33 years (2 Ridgebriar Ln, Newnan, GA); brother Richard T. Thornton, Sr. (wife Linda) of Cookeville, TN; Patricia Thornton (wife of brother Joseph Jr.) of Fortson, GA; and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, she was predeceased by her brother Colonel Joseph Thornton, Jr., US Army and sister Margaret Virginia Melton. A memorial gathering will be held at Patricia Thornton’s in Fortson, GA on October 26 and 27, 2019. Memorial contributions may be made to the Oncology Nursing Foundation. Condolences can be expressed online at www.mckoon.com
McKoon Funeral Home & Crematory (770) 253-4580

Previous Events

Service
OCT 26 (CT)
Fortson, GA

Tribute Wall

JK

“ Oh dear Mit. I think of you every day, when I read one of your cards, when I pet my kitties, when I see a beautiful sunset or butterfly. You are so missed.

Julie Keahey - November 05, 2019 at 02:11 PM

DS

“ Mitt was a very special person both as a friend and profession; compadre. I so enjoyed her enthusiasm for what ever she was doing. I had the opportunity to work with her first in Hawaii and then at Walter Reed. She made everything work so smoothly. So glad I have such memories of her that I will always cherish.

Dorothy Schneider - October 07, 2019 at 01:56 PM

MV

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



mary vogel - September 29, 2019 at 03:27 PM

MV

September 2018. The Love of Family. Don's brother Luke, Sister Mary, Niece Jaylee and beloved Don and Mit. Photo from Don's Sister Mary Vogel

mary vogel - September 29, 2019 at 03:32 PM

DS

“ 1 file added to the album Memories Album



Deanna Seabridge - September 20, 2019 at 08:41 AM

CA

“ How can I not write about someone who was the best letter writer I know? We met at Ft Knox where she helped out with the early intervention program even though as an active duty OT assigned to the clinic she had no obligation to do so. She just loved kids.

In 2017 when I found out I had breast cancer I called Mit. She helped me through it with calls and texts and emails. And didn't tell me until later that around that time she found out she had developed bone cancer.

Mit was a dear friend. She made the world a better place. I am so happy to have known her. I will miss her!

Chris Ashman - September 19, 2019 at 04:01 PM



“ Mit and I met when we were both stationed at WRAMC way back when. We found out that we lived only 1 street away from her, and eventually got in the routine of going out for sushi every Friday. When the wasabi was especially hot, she would say that she could "see the Baby"! It got to the point that I thought I was seeing the Baby Jesus too!. The first time we visited them in Maine, I remember driving somewhere in search of "booberries". Any time spent with her was time spent laughing. My prayers are with Don and her family.
Ann Treleven

Ann Treleven - September 17, 2019 at 10:27 PM



“ My brightest memory of Mit is her laugh! She found hilarity in so many things! Sometimes appropriate & sometimes NOT! And we shared a love for animals - her kitties, Misty & Shadow & my pug, Mia. We will all meet again over the Rainbow Bridge. I miss her & that laugh :) Wishing her family peace at this sad time.

K Hall - September 16, 2019 at 10:16 AM