



## Adrienne Nolen Sudolsky

November 26, 1955 - August 15, 2023

Adrienne Sudolsky, a longtime resident of Austin, died in hospice care at St. David's Hospital on August 15 after a long illness. Born into a large family, she cherished her roles of daughter, sister, wife, and mother. She will be remembered by her many friends as a bright and caring person who, even after her cancer diagnosis, continued to embrace life with faith, curiosity, determination, and good cheer.

Adrienne was born in Lafayette, Louisiana, in 1955, the fourth of Jeanne and Claude Nolen's six children. In 1956, the Nolen family settled in Austin, where Adrienne's father taught at St. Edward's University and Adrienne attended St. Ignatius primary school, Travis High School, and Brackenridge School of Nursing, where she earned her R.N. She later completed a nurse practitioner program in women's health in New Mexico.

Adrienne married Mitch Sudolsky, first in a Catholic wedding in Austin and then in a Jewish wedding in New York. Mitch's job as a social worker took them to Raton, New Mexico; to Trinidad, Colorado, where their children Claire and Aaron were born; and to Puebla, Colorado, before moving back to Austin to be closer to family. In Austin Adrienne worked as a nurse at the People's Clinic and the School for the Deaf, then as a nurse practitioner with ob/gyn physician Christopher Seeker. Beloved by her patients, she devoted herself to women's health care, taught Lamaze classes, supported the La Leche

organization, worked with teenage mothers, and was a tireless advocate for patient autonomy.

Adrienne's concern for her patients reflected a general concern for people in need. As a devout pro-life Roman Catholic and an active member of St. Theresa Lisieux parish, she was committed to serving "the least among us" as a Christian duty. She prayed the rosary daily, made a pilgrimage to Lourdes, contributed generously to charities, and volunteered with the St. Vincent de Paul charity in providing community outreach to Austin's poor.

In 2007, Adrienne was diagnosed with multiple myeloma and began treatment first in Little Rock, Arkansas, and then under the care of Austin oncologist Laurence Tokaz, whom she came to value as a friend. When her husband Mitch was diagnosed with cancer, Adrienne became his devoted caregiver even as she carried the burden of her own disease. With the help of her family and her faith she lived a full and fruitful life for a decade and a half after her diagnosis.

An avid reader, Adrienne loved Jane Austin, devoured classic novels like Don Quixote and Anna Karenina, and was always eager to share her latest book and movie discoveries with friends and family. She loved travel, music, swimming, walking, and all forms of dance, including tap, ballet, and Texas swing. She was an earnest gardener, a lover of birds and flowers, and an accomplished visual artist, creating beautifully colorful artworks in pastel, watercolor, oil, stained glass, and mosaic.

Adrienne was predeceased by her husband Mitch and by her parents Jeanne and Claude Nolen. She is survived by her children Claire and Aaron; siblings Cosette, Andrée, Denise, Hunt, and Lisa; and by many members of her extended family.

The family invites anyone interested in contributing to Adrienne's favorite charity to donate to St. Vincent de Paul through her parish church. The check may be made out to St. Theresa of Lisieux Catholic Church but the memo line should read "St. Vincent de Paul." The church mailing address is 4311 Small Drive, Austin, TX, 78731.

A Funeral Mass will be held on Friday, August 18, 2023, at 10 a.m. at St. Theresa Catholic Church. A live stream of the service will appear on the Austin Natural Funerals Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/AustinNaturalFunerals> a few minutes before 10 a.m. A Facebook account is not required to watch. If a pop-up window appears asking you to log in click "not now" and the live stream will be available for you to watch. If the "not now" button does not appear, scroll down on the page and it will come up for you to select.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 17. 6:00 PM (CT)

Austin Natural Funerals  
3742 Far West Blvd #104  
Austin, TX 78731

*Rosary Service will begin at 7pm*

## Computer Accessible Funeral Service

AUG 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

Austin Natural Funerals Facebook Page  
<http://facebook.com/austinnaturalfunerals>

*A live stream will appear on the Austin Natural Funerals Facebook page a few minutes before 10 AM. A Facebook account is not required to watch. If a pop-up window appears asking you to log in click "not now" and the live stream will be available for you to watch. If the "not now" button does not appear, scroll down on the page and it will come up for you to select.*

## Funeral Mass

AUG 18. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Theresa Catholic Church  
4311 Small Drive  
Austin, TX 78731

*Reception and Burial to immediately follow*

# Tribute Wall

JG

“ My deepest sympathies to the Nolan family for their loss of Adrienne. I've known Adrienne since the 3rd grade at St Ignatius parochial school. I cannot ever remember a time that she had a cross thing to say of anyone. She was kind and dear person with a beautiful soul. I will always remember her smile and sweet laugh. Adrienne belongs to the vastness of the cosmos now and we shall indeed meet again.

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**John B. Guerrero** - September 01, 2023 at 06:39 PM

AS

“ Adrienne is an inspiration to us all! Her invincible spirit and contrite heart brought joy to the world and love to all of us fortunate enough to know her.

*Thank God for the gift of Adrienne's life and for the blessings we've received from loving her. We will miss you, Adrienne, & pray that you will intercede for us from your eternal home. May the peace and mercy of Christ bring you to everlasting life. And on the Feast of the Assumption, we know the Blessed Mother must have met you at the gates of heaven and welcomed you into the fold! We are filled w/ gratitude for our friendship and for your kindness in all things. All our love, The Seeker Family*

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**Ann Seeker** - August 19, 2023 at 12:29 AM

JC

“ *My deepest condolences for the Dear Nolen family . Much love and blessings to all from down here in Bogotá, Colombia, South America*

*Wishing you much love and blessings from Juan Cuervo and Family*

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**Juan Cuervo** - August 18, 2023 at 08:27 AM



“ I met Adrienne in 3rd grade at St Ignatius, a friendship that would span 60 years. Our friendship got stronger during our high school years. High school is a rough time of growing up, But with Adrienne and 3 other girlfriends we formed tight bonds and great memories. The Nolens always opened their doors to us and I have great memories of us spending many nights on their front porch.

We drifted apart during our college years and later. But I always heard about what was going on with her from my parents who knew her parents because of St Ignatius. And her cousin, Maria, became a roommate of mine in college so I heard about what was going on with Adrienne from her.

When we were both in our early 40s we both moved back to Austin and reconnected and it was like the 20 years had not happened. We picked right up with our friendship.

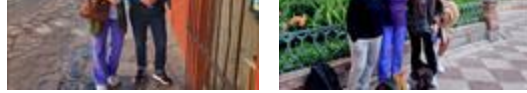
She was diagnosed with multiple myeloma soon after but I never felt like it defined her. She never talked about it unless I asked her about it, but truthfully, I forgot about her cancer most of the time when I was with her.

Friendships are so so precious. I consider her a soulmate whom I will miss so much. She has been in my life for so long and it is hard to believe she will not be there anymore.

We had a magical trip to San Miguel de Allende, Mx in Jan of this year with 2 other friends and I will forever remember it.

*I love you and will miss you....Ariel*





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**Ariel Ortegon** - August 17, 2023 at 11:28 PM

CO

“*Dearest cousins, my heart is breaking with the news of Adrienne’s passing. Wayne and I had the privilege of spending time with Adrienne and Mitch and children when they were in Trinidad and we were in Lakewood, CO. We kept her on our prayer list at St. Christopher Church in Pontotoc, MS during her cancer treatments in 2007. May she rest in peace.*”

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**Carolyn & Wayne Oakes** - August 17, 2023 at 06:27 PM

“Thirty years ago, in Pueblo, Colorado, Adrienne and I bonded over motherhood. We chatted whilst watching our children play. Our daughter Joanna and Adrienne and Mitch’s Aaron were similar ages, and their play together was so imaginative and creative.

*Time passed, and we moved to Richmond. A few years after that Adrienne, Mitch, Clare and Aaron moved back to Austin. We fell out of touch.*

*Time passed. Adrienne's illness was diagnosed. And then Mitch died. Last year our daughter passed away. A few months ago, Adrienne called me. She had heard about Joanna and she reached out to us even though – or perhaps especially because - she herself was grieving.*

*When we talked, Adrienne’s warm voice felt so familiar. Our friendship reawakened. The intervening years slipped away. We bonded again, this time over our grief.*

*Just three weeks ago Adrienne visited us in Massachusetts for a week. She had last visited Boston on her honeymoon with Mitch. We walked all over Concord (our home). We wandered around Boston Harbor and the North End and ate Italian food. We spent the better part of a day and lunched at Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts. We walked around Gloucester and Rockport on Cape Ann, browsing shops and galleries; we sat on a sandy beach and dined on lobster. We saw three-dimensional art at deCordova Sculpture Park. And on Saturday, July 29, Adrienne went to mass at the Holy Family Parish in Concord.*

*During this week, we shared our favorite book titles and TV shows. Adrienne was very interested in hearing what books I had read. She introduced me to a television show about grief – a comedy, *After Life* with Ricky Gervais which is wonderful. She really liked her walking poles while mine had languished in the trunk of our car. She got me reacquainted with them and taught me how to use them*

*effectively. Now I don't walk without them.*

*Adrienne rested after our activities lying flat on our recliner. Her pain seemed well controlled. She was careful about her health and stamina. When we last saw her at the airport we hugged and sadly said goodbye.*

*It was such a gift for us to get to know Adrienne again and to share that week together. My husband and I will cherish these fond memories as we mourn her passing.*

*Linda Carmel*



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**Linda Carmel** - August 17, 2023 at 04:08 PM

HE

“ We met in elementary school (Saint Ignatius) while my dad visited Austin. Then again when I stayed with the Nolen family. During that time Adrienne and I went to St Ed's where we took many classes together (English, Biology, Ballet, Drawing... ) all this time together cemented the beginnings our big (Texas size) friendship.

The vitality and strength while traveling (loving México, los Alamos...) story telling of trips with Mitch into the wilderness, of dancing (during covid she introduced me to Ballet for Seniors on youtube and we laughed -I loved her pure strong and joyous laughter- We commented on our YouTube Ballet progress and the teacher and her mom) of seeing movies and TV series (our beloved *Detectivists!* Toby Jones's character), reading (her favorite.. *Death Comes To The Archbishop*.. mine *Dreams Of My Russian Summers*), her gardening and making vibrant pastels (the *Red Poppies*) and precise and strong mosaics, her learning new pieces on the piano (*Schubert's Moments Musicaux*)... all this joy made her illness fade in the background of the routine infusions, meds and medical visits.

*Adrienne, the grace and courage in which you received and managed the MM seemed to overcome it.*

*It was all going to be alright.*

*After Mitch passing, again your faith finding strength moved you day by day. It was all going to be alright, we would continue our friendship into old age...*

*And when I realized all this grace and beauty and vitality was fading, a few days ago, ... I still prayed it would be fine, you would recover...*

*God took you.*

*As Mother Theresa would have said "God needed you more".*

*We are all heart broken.*

*I miss you... your brave heart, your sparkling love and beloved friendship... I was blessed to have met you... You are taking the journey early, we all must follow...*

*For now I Carry Your Heart With Me.*

*Raymond and I send our deepest sympathy and love to Hunt, Lisa, Cosette, Andree, Denise, all their children, spouses, grandchildren, and all who loved her, and specially to Aaron and Claire.*

*Keeping all in our daily prayers.*

*In Christ,*

*Helena*



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**Helena** - August 17, 2023 at 12:10 PM

CP

“ Dear family and friends of Adrienne, I too, was one of those lucky people to call Adrienne a good friend. I met her nearly 40 years ago in our small town at a play group for our children, although we always said it was a playgroup for us more than the children... as many of you, I was drawn to her lovely personality, her humor and her caring heart. So many memories...and even after she moved; a friend for life. I spoke to her just a couple of weeks ago... she was in Boston having a lovely time and we planned to talk again when she got home and plan another trip to Colorado... Over the years I've heard so many stories of her friends and family, I feel as though I know many of you, and I'm sure you're feeling as sad as I am to have lost such a special person in our lives. And, Claire and Aaron.. there are just no words... you have my deepest sympathies...I hope you can take solace in how much you were loved by such special parents.



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**Connie Pallone** - August 17, 2023 at 11:34 AM

DR

“ I am saddened and still in shock at the death of Adrienne. I knew and interacted with Adrienne only in the early 1970s, and circumstances sent us in different directions after that. But even in that short time I came to know her as a beautiful, loving person with a sweet personality---a true treasure as someone to have in your life. I lament not having kept in contact with Adrienne---our loss is augmented with this regret.

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**Daniel Martinez in Costa Rica** - August 16, 2023 at 03:23 PM

“Most of the good memories that I have happened before COVID and that is what I want to focus on.

*One day in early 2010 I came home from a nearby park-and-ride and Adrienne just happened to be sitting outside their house on a low garden wall by the sidewalk. I think Aaron was there too. When she learned about my walking home from the park-and-ride (about 25 minutes), she asked if I walk on a regular basis and, if so, would I be interested in walking with her for exercise? I said yes, and that is how our walks started.*

*Soon we learned from each other that we had recently lost our dogs, Goldie and Clarke. So, there were lots of memories to share. We also talked about our families a lot, and it always made her happy when I informed her of a new addition to our family either in Germany or England. She loved hearing news about the arrival of a new baby.*

*Adrienne absolutely loved going to garage sales. She had a sharp eye for good quality and many an item in the Sudolsky home was an acquisition from a neighborhood garage sale. I gladly accompanied her on several occasions, taking a detour from our walk to do a little window shopping and, well, maybe a little real shopping too.*

*I too am an avid reader, so book discussions were always on the menu. Common favorite writers included Larry McMurtry (Lonesome Dove series) and Alexander McCall Smith (The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency series). Another great candidate for discussion was Les Misérables, which ended up in a visit to the movie theater. That's right, going to movies was another joy we shared, usually followed by a visit to a restaurant or coffee shop.*

*As many will confirm, Adrienne loved flowers and the front yard was her pride and joy. Spring was especially enjoyable, when not just her beloved Bluebonnets, but a multitude of native flowers covered*

*the flowerbeds in wonderful colors. I still appreciate hers and Mitch's trust in me for watering their vegetables and flowers when they went on a trip together.*

*Adrienne's passing very much saddened my husband, Chris and me. She was an inspiration and a role model to so many. I feel blessed to have known her and to have been a part of her life for close to two decades. That she will be dearly missed is almost an understatement. RIP, my Friend and say Hi to Mitch.*

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**Christa Broadbent** - August 16, 2023 at 12:43 PM

MC

“ *I had the honor to volunteering at Saint Vincent de Paul with Adrienne for five years and this tribute has done a remarkable job of capturing her wonderful spirit. I totally agree that she embraced life with faith, curiosity, determination, and good cheer. She was such a joy in all situations: helping others, researching ways to help those with diabetes and heart conditions, and just visiting. She was determined to master new technology or learn about new programs to support the vulnerable. I can still hear her drawl asking questions to make sure she could connect our neighbors in need to important resources. But most of all, I will miss her joie de vivre and her friendship. There is already a big hole in our hearts because she is gone. My consolation is our belief that she is with her beloved Mitch and the hope that we will see her again. ❤️*

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**Maureen Carter** - August 16, 2023 at 11:07 AM

Jl

“ I am so saddened to learn of Adrienne's passing as she was a member of our SVDP group. Adrienne always asked insightful questions about our homeless ministry, and I appreciated her candor, intuitive wisdom and curiosity. I feel particularly sad not even knowing that she was ill as she never shared this. Adrienne left such a positive imprint on the people she touched.

Johanne Ibsen-Wolford - August 16, 2023 at 10:56 AM

SC

What beautiful soul. She will be missed. ❤️🙏 Praying for you all!

Susan Coffman - August 16, 2023 at 08:34 PM

SG

I just read of Adrienne's passing. I remember her as a cute little girl playing with my little sisters, Teresa and Mary. My Dad came to St. Edward's to work and were welcomed by Adrienne's father, Claude. Cosette and I graduated from St. Mary's Academy together. Adrienne was born into such a loving family. I didn't know Adrienne as an adult but all her qualities, I know, emanated out of such a special family.  
Sylvia Paulissen Gillean

Sylvia Gillean - August 19, 2023 at 10:56 AM

JS

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Janice Sturrock - August 16, 2023 at 10:12 AM

JW

*Lisa (Steve) and your family, Adrienne sounds like an awesome woman and as I read the obit., we had a lot of commonalities with our profession, experience, devotion to church and personal pleasures. I am sure she will surround you with her spirit.. Thoughts and prayers,  
Jane Watson*

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**Jane Watson** - August 17, 2023 at 08:53 AM

MB

“ *I am sorry to hear about your loved one, Adrienne.*

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**Mike Burley** - August 15, 2023 at 10:46 PM

MM

“ Aunt Adrienne. This has been such an incredibly hard week and I am heartbroken over your passing. What a gift it has been to have this close relationship with my aunt who became a close friend. We ran together many times on town lake. Our last run was when you later discovered a lumbar fracture which turned out to be multiple myeloma. You started our run in pain and still made it 4 miles. Just one small glimpse into your strength. You were a mentor for me, first as an RN and then as a Nurse Practitioner. Your encouragement one night in Brownwood, when we talked late into the night about nursing, gave me the confidence to pursue my application and eventual acceptance into the UT Nursing Masters Degree Program. Your most signifiant impact was your insistence that I meet Aaron's Irish art teacher. You took on the role of match maker and was present when John first met the family on Alpine. Your smile said it all. It must have been satisfying to have made such a successful match. I am eternity grateful for your persistence. You, along with my Mama, were the first two people to visit us in the hospital when Henry was born and you helped me so much with breastfeeding. You were the person I called crying to at midnight when I was struggling with a newborn feed. I am blessed to have helped care for you in your last week. I know you have touched many lives; you have had a huge impact on mine. All my love.  
Monique Sommer Mulvany

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Monique Mulvany - August 15, 2023 at 08:30 PM

SM

“ We're deeply saddened by Adrienne's passing and feel grateful for having her in our lives. Adrienne and Mitch were dear friends and we shared many happy times together. Adrienne embodied many wonderful qualities, so beautifully expressed in the obituary. It's rare to find those in a single person and in some ways that's what makes it so difficult to lose her. We'll cherish the memories. Steve McKee and Janice Sturrock



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**Stephen D. McKee** - August 15, 2023 at 07:06 PM

SB

“ My dear cousins, words fail me at this moment. To say that I am sorry, saddened, heartbroken, for you and all who loved Adrienne, seems insufficient. Memories of all of you together on Woodward and then on Alpine keep playing over and over in my head, happy memories- and funny ones, too- with each one of you a part of the whole. It seems impossible that the six are now five. Being born into this (extended) has been one of the great joys of my life, and having grown-up friendships with my cousins has been an unexpected blessing. I loved Adrienne and was privileged to be with her in Little Rock for a week while she underwent treatment. What an experience that was! I was humbled beyond measure to see what she endured with such courage, and good spirit. Her faith in God was clearly visible, and it sustained her until the end.

We were destined, though, for a more joyful trip; our voyage to Lourdes, via Paris, and Rome, was indescribable. It was a trip filled with laughter, good food, art, and, most importantly, faith. I lost count of the number of churches we saw, and I think Adrienne did, too,, but nothing compared to Lourdes, where I am convinced she was blessed with a miracle. We prayed for Matthew and (little) Sarah, understanding that miracles come in many forms.

We had a lot of fun together over the years. We loved talking about books and movies, as you mentioned, and we also worked puzzles. I guess I will ask Aaron if *The Girl With The Pearl Earring* is still unfinished on her puzzle table. It is a real booger. I'd have put it away a long time ago, but every time I went to her house, there it was, with a little bit more done. She never gave up- inot on a jigsaw puzzle or anything, as far as I could tell. I will always remember her strength, her determination, the beauty she created, her love for all people, especially family, and her undying faith. I love you, sweet Adrienne. Thank you for letting me be a part of your incredible journey.

Sarah

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Sarah Brown - August 15, 2023 at 05:46 PM

MM

*So beautiful Sarah. 🥹*

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**Monique Mulvany** - August 15, 2023 at 07:51 PM

SB

*Yours, too, dear. ❤️ Interesting how there's so much we never know about the good people do, isn't it? She was truly a mentor as well as a friend and aunt to you. I'm sorry for your loss, sweetie.*

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**Sarah Brown** - August 15, 2023 at 08:50 PM