Jane Spooner

Obituary

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Jane Spooner Dies

Jane Spooner (Grossmont College, Speech, 1962-1983) died on July 10, 1999 at her home in Tucson.

(Don Scouller graciously supplied the following:)

Jane Spooner, my old friend, died recently and I'd like to share a few memories with those who knew her. When I was first hired in 1965 the College was still under construction, and I was posted to the 300 Bldg to share office space with the engineering faculty. I didn't even know who the other members of the department were, because I had been hired by Dean Charlie Collins and temporarily assigned to Speech and/or drama/and or speech . I had been given the names of Martin Gerrish and Jack McAuley, but I couldn't find either of them. But Jane Spooner sought me out and came to my office to welcome me. She brought me a text book that was being used, and took me on a walking tour of the campus. That's the kind of person she was. She cared about people, and acted upon her concerns. We became lifelong friends.

When Joan and I moved to Tucson we visited her at her lushly beautiful desert acreage. She came to visit us in our Sun City Vistoso home, and we hoped she would consider moving near us. Instead she designed and had built a magnificent home. She charmed the general contractor and his crew and they helped her work through the technical aspects of designing for the desert. She was a member of Southwest Mystery Writers Group, and we went on "field research trips' to sites of her stories. Once I had to convince her that a snub-nose .38 caliber handgun was not very accurate at 150 yards downhill range. The three of us had many creative moments fiddling plots to meet the terrain.

We shared good memories of her interest in acting, and her debut as a television star—or at least as a bit player in commercials. She always kept her sense of humor at the ready, and could tell a good story on herself with real glee. She was a lady of many parts, and I am glad to have shared some good times with her.