

My Dear Friend, Virginia!

by Bernadette Quercio (2011)

I am sitting here with tears going down my face.. Virginia Grefe was a very dear friend of mine. She was a rock. Virginia was a person of reason and was a person there for all of her friends.

Through the years she would travel to California...during one of her trips the entourage consisted of Ken Hyatt, Terry Sewell and 2 Alaskan Malamutes. We traveled to shows and attended a specialty in Northern California. We Traveled to San Diego to see one of Sam Maranto's friend who had Alaskan Malamutes on his many acres of land and who was also a fight promoter. Virginia really enjoyed going to this ranch. Sam who had a menagerie of animals in his back yard besides his dogs had a raccoon named Blossom and many birds..he had many love birds!

Virginia was an avid gardener with her love for flowers.

We also went to a famous orchid farm and she purchased some to plant at her home! Going home from this trip Sam made up a Bird carrier so she could take the love birds right on the plane with her and we fixed up the orchids she purchased so again it could be in the cabin with her! It was a site and we had a good laugh about that day at the airport and again during the years when we talked about this trip!



My trips to the East and going to the Grefe's were memorable with those wonderful dinners she made! She was a woman who loved life and did for her friends! Through the years we would keep in touch by phone and would meet up at dog shows and again she would be cooking up a storm in their trailer! Our last dinner we had together was in Long Beach during the Eucanuba Shows last December. It was a wonderful visit we had and I will remember it for a very long time!

But, I never did tell Virginia that I loved her and Dick as my very close friends and that she was always there for me through the years! Virginia has been with Dick the love of her life since grammar school and they were a team together in the agenda of the dog game!

The Alaskan Malamute has lost a strong supporter on all venues an individual like this will never be replaced!

Virginia, I will be missing you till we meet up again !

With great affection and Love

Bernadette