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Miriam Batallones Pillos

Guest Book

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"Steven, Josefa, and Nathan, We are so sad to learn of..."

- Julie and Pat Carey

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Obituary



After a determined 2-1/2 year battle against stage 4 lung cancer, Miriam Batallones Pillos, 52, passed away on March 26, 2016 with her family by her side at Mid-Michigan Medical Center, as a consequence of complications

from pneumonia. Miriam was born in Manila, Philippines on July 27, 1963, the daughter of Jose and Teresa (Batallones) Pillos. She spent her early childhood in Dingras, a small city in the province of Ilocos Norte.

In 1970, she moved with her family to Hawaii, and spent the remainder of her childhood living in Kaneohe and Waianae. She graduated from Waianae High School in 1982, and attended the University of Hawaii for one year. She transferred to Grinnell College in Iowa the following year, where she majored in biology and graduated in



Email Obituary

Share to accompany Steven while he attended Graduate school at [UCLA](#). They were married in Beverly Hills, Calif., on May 17 1992.

While living in Midland, Miriam worked as a contractor in the hourly placement office at The Dow Chemical Co., followed by assignment in an

inorganic materials laboratory. She later worked at Carey Allstate. Between jobs, Miriam was a committed homemaker and mother.

Miriam had a great love of the outdoors and protecting wildlife habitat. In college she won a prestigious NOAA Junior Fellowship with the National Marine Fisheries Service, and spent her summers traveling to the outer Hawaiian Islands to work on sea turtle and Hawaiian Monk Seal recovery. She loved the challenge of camping and working in such remote and beautiful areas.

Starting in early childhood, Miriam developed a lifelong love of dance, especially ballet. After studying Hula in Hawaii for a brief time, Miriam rediscovered her passion for ballet in college. She became increasingly committed to it while living in Los Angeles, and studied for several years at the highly-regarded Stanley Holden Dance Studio in West Los Angles. When her Midland ballet teacher moved to Wyoming in 2000, Miriam took her place and began teaching young people at the middle and high school level. It was her great joy and privilege to teach ballet in tandem with Linda Bozzelli for over 15 years, sharing her passion with a generation of young ladies (and even a few young men). Her dance students were truly her pride and joy.

She is survived by her husband of almost 24 years, Steven Kaganove; children, Josefa and Nathan Kaganove of Midland; brother, Jommer Pillos of San Francisco, Calif.; her mother, Teresa (Batallones) Pillos of Waianae, Hawaii; and in-laws, Jerry and Arlene Kaganove of Chicago, Ill. She was preceded in death by her father, Jose Pillos.

Miriam and her family would like to thank the accomplished oncologists who fought so doggedly on her behalf over the past two years, including Dr. Khaled Hassan of the [University of Michigan](#) Medical Center and Dr. Shirish Gadgeel of the Karmanos Cancer Institute. Also, we are deeply grateful to the highly committed and compassionate care Miriam received in her final days from Dr. Wil VanderRoest and physician's assistant Rick Melman at Mid-Michigan Medical Center. It was of tremendous comfort to her to

know and trust that Wil and Rick had her back when she needed it the most.

Funeral arrangements in Honolulu are pending. Those planning an expression of sympathy are asked to consider the Sierra Club, Lungevity, or the Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation.

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Miriam Batallones Pillos

March 26, 2016

Miriam Batallones Pillos, 52, of Midland, Mich., died in Midland. She was born in Manila. She is survived by husband Steven Kaganove, son Nathan Kaganove, daughter Josefa Kaganove, mother Teresa and brother Jommer. Visitation: 9 a.m. April 20 at Mililani Mortuary-Waipio, makai chapel. Services: 10 a.m. Burial: 11 a.m. at Mililani Memorial Park.

Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of the deceased

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