



Tonya Lynn Marie Tirey Cianchette

February 22, 1975 - August 30, 2020

Saco

Tonya Lynn Marie Tirey Cianchette, aged 45, of Saco, ME, died during an ocean cleanup scuba dive trip near Portsmouth, NH on August 30, 2020. Tonya was born on February 22, 1975, in Sarnia, Ontario, Canada to Lucy Tirey Lariviere (Ray) and Timothy N. Tirey (Haden), the oldest (and bossiest) of five children.

She attended several schools in Sarnia and Houston, Texas, and is a graduate of Troy State University, in Troy, Alabama. At Troy, Tonya earned a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism and was awarded the prestigious national "Broadcast Journalist of the Year" award in both her sophomore and junior years.

Tonya was predeceased by her maternal grandparents, John and Anne Chrapko of Sarnia, and her paternal grandparents, Cliff Tirey of Tuckerman, AR and Bobbie McElfresh of Houston, TX.

She is survived by her beloved children, John Aaron (14) and Luke William (10); her parents, Lucy Lariviere of Sarnia, Ontario, and Tim Tirey, of Monroeville, AL; her siblings, John Ryan and Melissa Anne (sister and bestie) of Sarnia; Peyton Michael of Newport, RI; Lillian Haden, of Monroeville, AL.; and her former husband, Aaron Cianchette, of Windham, ME. Tonya also leaves a host of beloved aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews and friends scattered all over the world.

Tonya was passionate about keeping our planet clean and was physically involved in this endeavor. She was also passionate about politics. Actually, Tonya was passionate about life, enjoying snow skiing, biking, hiking, diving, and any social gathering.

And anyone who knew her knew that Tonya loved traveling. She had visited many places in Mexico, as well as the Dominican Republic---where she lived with her parents for a year or so as a tween---and many other Caribbean islands.

A solo trip to Thailand provided one of her greatest adventures as she backpacked around the country with like-minded volunteers, working with an elephant rescue team---yet another passion of hers. Tonya was living her best life, wide open, with joy and unbounded energy.

At this time, no date has been set for a service. The family requests that any donations in memory of Tonya be made to: Maine Lab Rescue 10 Tamarack Ln Windham, ME 04062
Or online <http://www.mainelabrescue.com/donate>.

Comments



“ Just received this tragic news. My heart goes out to her sons and the family. She was an awesome frame rep. and we shared many stories of our son's. She was such a devoted mom and loved them dearly. I will miss her upbeat personality and smile that lit up any room. Prayers to her entire family.

Stephanie Crosby

Stephanie Crosby - September 28, 2020 at 11:30 AM



“ I'm so sorry to hear of this tragedy. I worked with Tonya for several years at Alcon. She was kind and dedicated. She clearly was a devoted mother and my heart aches for her sons. Sending many prayers to her family and friends.

Allison Granger - September 18, 2020 at 11:38 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Tonya's passing. She and I were friends in Sarnia at a very young age. I still recall our sleepovers. It is comforting to know that she lived a joyous and caring life. My sincere condolences to the entire family.

Cara Finn - September 13, 2020 at 09:48 PM



“ My condolences to Tonya's family & friends. I met Tonya approx. 23 yrs ago in Sarnia. She was a most impressive co-worker, always smiling & upbeat. She confided some of her dreams & after recently reading many tributes to her I see that she fulfilled them! She once told me she wanted to live sometime with a Mennonite farm family to learn about their lives. Several years later during a chance meeting Tonya told me she'd done so for several months in central Ont--that was Tonya--adventurous with an infectious fun loving personality. RIP Tonya.

Wayne Harris - September 12, 2020 at 08:10 PM



“ I am deeply saddened to hear about Tonya’s passing. Gone to soon. She was such a great person. We often shared stories about our kids. She was an amazing frame rep and I will miss seeing her. My heart goes out to her boys.

Melissa LaPlume - September 11, 2020 at 08:09 PM



“ I am so devastated to have heard about the tragic passing of Tonya. She was my favorite sales rep at Dr Johnson’s Office in VT. Whenever Tonya came to the office we’d talk about her boys, her family, traveling and life. She always had stories/ knowledge to share with me when I was going on vacation. I truly enjoyed our visits and would consider Tonya a friend as well as our sales rep. She was a beautiful person inside and out and could rock any pair of glasses she tried on.... it made an easy sell when she modeled them! I’m so deeply sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with you all.

Karin Berno

Karin Berno - September 10, 2020 at 08:15 PM



“ Tonya was always a joy, and we’re so devastated to hear of her tragic passing. I met Tonya through her Sister, Melissa, and was lucky enough to enjoy some great laughs with her through the years.

Our whole family sends our love and sympathy to Tonya’s family & friends. She will be missed.

Kristen, Matt and Eva Harris - September 10, 2020 at 01:59 PM



“ Our hearts go out to the family of Tonya. Such a beautiful person. We are deeply saddened.

Lou & Sharon Campbell

Louis & Sharon Campbell - September 10, 2020 at 01:27 PM



“ I still hear your voice and remember all the fun talks we had . I am beyond saddened that you were taken from your boys who you gave your all too . Such a wonderful mom and person . From the moment I met you you were always so positive and had such a zest for life . I cannot make sense of this and it will be something that will always bother me that you didn't get the chance to see your boys grow up . What I do know is that you will live on in them . They are such good kids and whatever I can do in my power to help them in whatever way I can I will . You never hesitated to let us bring John along on a trip and pushed his passion for traveling . You will be forever missed . This is so tragic and I am so very sorry . I want to express my deepest condolences to your boys and all your family

Christine Reaser - September 08, 2020 at 09:55 PM



“ We are so shocked and sad to hear of the loss of Tonya. Our sincerest condolences to all of Tonya's family . Thinking of you all, Paul & Sue Mantha, Sarnia, Ontario Canada.

Sue Mantha - September 08, 2020 at 07:58 PM



“ I'm so sad to hear about this tragedy. Tonya was my glasses frame rep and I only met her once, but she had already become my favorite rep. So very sad to hear this. :(

Leanna - September 08, 2020 at 06:58 PM



“ Such an amazingly positive person. Tonya was incredibly kind and passionate about most everything she did. She was quick to say yes to meet up for lunch and would give helpful advice whenever asked. She clearly loved her boys more than anything else in life. I am deeply saddened by her passing and am so sorry for the loss of her family and friends.

Andrea Civiello - September 08, 2020 at 02:07 PM



“ Tonya, we might have not spent too much time together but I will always remember the little moment we shared. We still haven't gotten that chance to go see Frozen 2 together. The most memorable memory I have of Tonya was when we are at Tamara's house for her make over gathering. Her smile brighten up the entire room. Tonya May you Rest In Peace! You will very much be missed. 😊

Jen Huynh - September 06, 2020 at 11:02 PM



“ Tonya, you were such an incredible person. You had such a zest for life. Your light was as bright as the sun. You were a loyal and trusting friend who could always be counted on. The best mom ever to John Aaron and Luke. They hit the lottery with you. You taught them and all of us how to live your best life. You left a very beautiful mark on this world and I will treasure my memories of the many times we shared together. I hear your wisdom in my thoughts about how to process my grief. You will live in my heart forever. Thank you for taking care of my Andrew till I get there. I miss you beyond measure. Thank you for being such a blessing in my life. I love you always!! Love, Robin



Robin Watts - September 06, 2020 at 02:36 PM