



Anita Deloris Alverio

January 18, 1949 - March 23, 2026

Anita Alverio lived a glorious life. She devoted her life to the health care field and was also an education reform activist and an award-winner in both print and radio journalism.

Anita was born in 1949 in Brooklyn, New York of mixed Pennsylvania Dutch and Puerto Rican heritage, with her mother providing the Pennsylvania Dutch side and her father, born in Puerto Rico, providing the Hispanic side.

She always proudly identified most with her Puerto Rican heritage, which she traced back, finally, to the original Taino natives of the island. And, since she was born in New York, she termed herself a "Newyorican" - a New York City Puerto Rican.

Anita left New York City to attend college in western Massachusetts, where she obtained her Bachelor's degree (B.A.). After graduation she immediately began administrative work in a Boston-area hospital, and she continued her relationship to the health care profession for the rest of her life.

At the same time, Anita became deeply involved in education reform issues and volunteered extensively with the Education Action Fund, created by Boston author and education reformer Jonathan Kozol. She helped obtain funding for the "alternative schools" of the era, known by the education reform

movement of the time as "free schools," because they were where freedom was taught.

She married a fellow graduate of her college, who obtained his law degree and who, since he shared her commitment to social justice, became a Legal Services attorney. In 1978 they relocated to Pittsburgh. There her husband became a Neighborhood Legal Services attorney providing free legal service to the then hard-pressed people of Pittsburgh's struggling Steel Valley towns, such as Homestead and, especially, Braddock, where they almost chose to live.

At that time Anita immersed herself in the Pittsburgh health care environment. She began working for the Pittsburgh Free Clinic, which provided free health care via participating volunteer doctors and nurses to Pittsburgh's homeless and others without sufficient health care. Because of her previous work in fundraising for the Education Action Fund in Boston, Anita was adept in fund raising for the Pittsburgh Free Clinic. She became a member of the Board of Directors, and eventually, because of her administrative skills, rose to become Chairman of the Board of Directors. She remained affiliated with the Pittsburgh Free Clinic until it ceased operations.

Anita also began writing articles about health care issues and began publishing them in the Pittsburgh New Sun, the city's "alternative news weekly" of the time. In a short while she became that newspaper's principal writer, not only on health care issues, but an entire spectrum of issues. It was at the New Sun that she re-met Eric Leif Davin, the paper's editor. They had initially met in Boston, where Eric had also worked with Jonathan Kozol at the Education Action Fund. By complete accident, both had since relocated to Pittsburgh. Anita divorced her husband and she and Eric remained close working and life partners for the rest of her life. After the New Sun ceased operations for financial reasons, Anita helped found the short-lived City Times,

a new "alternative newspaper" with Eric and the staff of the New Sun.

They also began producing a weekly news program, "The Weekly Reader," at local free-form radio station, WYEP-FM. Over the course of several years working at WYEP, Anita won several Golden Quill awards, Pennsylvania's highest journalism award, for her news reporting. These included awards for "Best Radio Documentary," "Best Feature Story," "Best Sports Reporting," and several other categories. Anita's Golden Quill Award for "Best Radio Documentary" was for a long story she did on the death of the steel industry in Homestead. She also turned this into a video-slide presentation that she and Eric presented at many area locations to publicize the story of the death of steel in the Steel City. She also wrote articles for the local and gritty "voice of the working class" journal, The Mill Hunk Herald, which appeared from 1979-1989.

Anita eventually began working at New Image Press, a Pittsburgh print company, until that company also closed for financial reasons. It was while working at New Image Press, in 1987, that Anita was diagnosed with an acoustic neuroma brain tumor. Although benign, nevertheless, because of its size, it would have killed her if not removed. Her subsequent surgery successfully removed the tumor, but also severed the big trigeminal nerve on her right side. It left the right side of her face paralyzed, deaf in her right ear, and made it difficult for her paralyzed right eyelid to blink. A gold bar was inserted into her upper right eyelid to provide the weight to pull down the lid and save her eyesight. Even so, she had problems with her right eyelid for the rest of her life.

The fact of her partial deafness, her eyelid problem, and her partially paralyzed face did not stop Anita from continuing to live the active life she had always lived. Her surgery had given her a second chance at life, and she

seized that chance. Anita subsequently returned to health care administration, and briefly worked at Pittsburgh's Shadyside Hospital and Children's Hospital before joining Magee Women's Hospital, all of them part of the UPMC health care network of hospitals. Anita worked in administration at Magee Hospital up until the time of her untimely death.

Her work colleagues at Magee Hospital were devastated upon learning of her death. This was not only because she was, they said, the light of the office, but because, they also said, she was "the glue that kept things together and working around here." Because of her administrative skills and her long institutional knowledge, Anita was able to get things done that no one else could get done. If no one else knew how to get the funding to buy an expensive piece of needed equipment - Anita made it happen. If no one else knew what steps were needed to carry out a particular policy - Anita knew what was needed to get it done. She was, indeed, the glue that kept things together.

It is traditional to say good things about people upon their death. But one must say only exceptionally good things about Anita. Anita was a completely good person. She never wished evil on anyone, nor did she ever harm anyone. She devoted her life to helping people and lifting them up. She never undercut, sabotaged, or backstabbed anyone. She never had a bad word for anyone. As a matter of ethical principal she refused to engage in the universal office gossip about others that happens at all workplaces. Anita said only good things about others as an ethical principal, as her guiding policy was, "Praise in public, criticize in private." She recognized that people everywhere are starved for appreciation, and so, at the slightest opportunity, she publicly lavished appreciation upon her co-workers for their accomplishments. If she had any criticism of a co-worker, she took that up in private with that co-worker. She believed criticisms were not to be aired publicly or in office gossip, so she literally said only good things about people as a matter of

ethical principal.

Anita and Eric spent almost half a century together, partners in both work and life. They were "joined at the hip." She left her husband to be with Eric and loved him deeply and without reserve for the rest of her life. His name was the last word she spoke as she died. And Eric loved Anita, his partner in work and life, deeply and without reserve. She died unexpectedly and suddenly, perhaps as a result of the undiagnosed recurrence of her brain tumor. And she died at home, in Eric's arms as he embraced her and held her close to the very end of her glorious life.

The end of his life

Came with the end of her life.

No more need be said.

Professional services entrusted to D'Alessandro Funeral Home & Crematory Ltd; 4522 Butler Street Pittsburgh, PA, 15201.

Tribute Wall

MM

“ 3 files added to the tribute wall



Morgan M. Morgan - April 12 at 01:58 AM

MM

“ Some pics from Anita's award winning works.

Morgan M. Morgan - April 12 at 01:55 AM

CD

“Wow, I may have known Anita the longest other than her sister & some fellow high school classmates - 62 years! Anita was a treasure! I was a transplant from California to New York my sophomore year, & Anita was one of many classmates who welcomed me & my sister with open hearts :) I worked with her that first year (1964-65) on the yearbook. She was so talented, brilliant & a sweetheart! We went to college together one year, then I got wanderlust & went off to England & WA state to finish college, but we stayed in contact. She came to my wedding in Illinois in 1974, & that was the last time I saw her :(We have kept in contact all these years, especially at Christmas/New Years. I will sure miss her letters/emails updating me on her year's activities! Last year two other classmates & I were making plans to travel to Pittsburgh from FL, CA & WA to visit Anita since she has been unable to attend a couple alumni gatherings we had. Unfortunately those plans didn't work out, & we were considering another try this year. Oh, so sad that won't happen now! The news of her sudden passing hit me hard. Thank you, Eric, for the loving tribute you wrote so beautifully in the obituary. I learned so much more about my dear friend & now cherish the memories!

Carol Dodge - April 11 at 08:34 PM

SH

“ She was really something. She had the kindest eyes. Maybe I have seen kinder eyes in somebody sometime, but not many, maybe not any. So when I met Anita, she was basically part of an entity we called "Eric n Anita" because they seemed an inseparable partnership. We all knew, even if they didn't. The two of them were working at one of those little alternative newspapers that are so important, surviving on the margins but even though marginal providing avenues for truth and insight and creativity. It was a little newspaper that launched my first wife's stratospheric writing career. Years later, a little newspaper enabled the survival of my own career in broadcasting. In between is when we met "Eric n Anita." I was training people at community radio station WYEP, and my partner Johanna Eurich was in the early stages of a broadcast journalism career, selling news stories from Pittsburgh to National Public Radio. NPR wouldn't buy any stories from me because I sounded too much like a commercial radio broadcaster, which I totally was, not the style they were looking for at all. I felt they were not ready for the revolutionary news stories I was trying to sell them because they had never heard of those ideas before and resisted the impact with which I crafted my stories. That was true. But Johanna figured out how to bust through and deliver what NPR thought they wanted. But we were drumming up more stories than they would buy, so she went to that little paper with some stories about food and gardening, and Eric was receptive and a good editor. Then together we traveled to Philadelphia to do a story on the home birth movement, which we sold to NPR, but in a version that due to their editorial restrictions was very limited, even dumbed down, compared to what we had actually learned about the subject. Returning to Pittsburgh, Johanna's sources told her that a local hospital was trying to wipe out "rooming in" for couples wanting to have babies there with minimal medical intervention. Eric and Anita were excited by that story and the paper ran it. The hospital denied everything, but it was one of those non-denial denials, so a follow-up story was printed, and suddenly the paper's owner fired both Eric and Anita, whereupon all the writers walked out, making news. "Well," I said, "I know how to deal with this! We'll just keep the paper going by

putting it on the radio!" And I meant it. I remembered that during a newspaper strike in New York, Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia got the idea of going on the radio and reading the comics that the newspapers were not printing. It was a flaming populist success. We met with Eric and Anita and some of the writers, and I pitched the idea, and they bought into it right away, even though we had no advertising base whatsoever. I insisted that the show be called "The Weekly Reader" because it would signal to the audience that it was still the newspaper, just being read on the air. It only took a couple of weeks before the writers started being intrigued by the possibilities of expanding into audio. We were more than happy to assist in that process, and things gained strength, reputation, and recognition. Pretty soon there was a new little newspaper controlled by the writers, known as "City Times."

Some months later, Johanna's NPR editor, Sandra Rattley, called us in a panic, asking if we knew any journalists who wanted NPR training. We said "absolutely," and bundled Eric and Anita into our little car for a trip across Pennsylvania to the training. The rest is history. All things pass, and despite her stellar track record developing broadcast journalism talent, Sandy got marginalized by the internal politics of public broadcasting, Johanna and I ended up in Alaska, Eric became a book author, and now Anita has left us. I am so glad I knew her, and could help her in her accomplishments. Not much of this would have happened without love. Those writers at the "New Sun" needed to be so much in love with what they did

Steve Heimel - April 10 at 04:46 PM

MO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Morgan - April 08 at 07:45 PM

MU

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Murph - April 07 at 05:44 PM

ED

“ ANITA'S LOVE OF TRAVEL:

Anita travel several times to the Southwest to visit every major prehistoric Native American ruin in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah. She wrote about one such adventure, and included her many photos of the trip, in this travel journal available on Amazon:

https://www.amazon.com/Road-Scholars-Pueblos-Ancients-September/dp/1387426818/ref=sr_1_1?crid=22CKLFJLT40XT&dib=eyJ2ljojMSJ9.VpC1pYyFHSXg91erZS_Jpgs1xfKcSebhZhLGjibmJ7A.Ygu2_RxdgCYLMLHOGpQ0D53Vwxbs5_85dcCBJCYmwU&dib_tag=se&keywords=Anita+Alverio&qid=1775530939&srefix=anita+alverio%2Caps%2C129&sr=8-1

Eric Davin - April 06 at 11:10 PM

MO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Morgan - April 05 at 12:19 AM

“ I first encountered Anita through Eric (not surprising given their closeness). I met Eric during our mutual participation in the movement protesting plant closings. He seemed a dynamo of creative energy. Only later did I learn how large a role Anita had played in Eric’s creative activities. They had, for example, collaborated in a wonderful documentary about a Homestead movie theater that had thrived in the years when steel thrived in Homestead.

Eric became interested in me because I had been hired by the University of Pittsburgh to replace the famous labor historian David Montgomery (who had gone to Yale). Although he had not yet had much formal scholarly training, Eric had already published significant (and widely cited) articles in scholarly journals.

He came to visit me in my Pitt office with drafts of current writings asking for my opinion. I basically said they had great potential but also some serious flaws. I frankly expected I had offended him, and that would be the end of it, but he kept coming back, and eventually asked if I would help him get into the History Graduate program. I supervised his graduate education through a Ph.D. dissertation that became a much-admired book on New Deal politics in Pittsburgh.

Anita often accompanied him to activities at Pitt. She seemed thoughtful, but more reserved than Eric, and I confess that at first I didn’t put effort into getting to know her.

But as my relationship with Eric gradually changed from professor and student to friend and collaborators, I also saw more and more of Anita. Eric joined a business I started with my wife, American Social History and Social Movements, that specialized in buying and selling left wing ephemera (yes an obvious contradiction between socialist historian by day, small time capitalist by night). When we shared meals, it was often a foursome: Eric and Anita, me and my

wife Pam.

The business involved traveling. Sometimes Eric traveled with me. Sometimes either Eric or Anita babysat for our two sons (Daniel and Jonathan). (When Jonathan heard about Anita's death, he asked for Eric's phone number so he could call Eric and tell him that Anita and Eric had been "the coolest babysitters in existence. "

Eric and Anita joined us at annual Passover Seders. Although neither were Jewish, they both saw the wisdom in a holiday that celebrated liberation from slavery.

The last time I saw Anita was when the four of us went out for dinner together for the last time before Pam and I moved permanently to New Mexico. I remember that the after effects of her first tumor (that may eventually have caused her death) caused her obvious discomfort. Her eye watered uncontrollably and she dabbed it frequently with a napkin. But as at every other time I saw her, she never complained. Instead she took the occasion to thank me and Pam for our friendship.

Anita and Eric sent us annual holiday greetings, and at first we sent them annual calendars featuring photographs of Taos scenery. But my health started to deteriorate about five years ago, and I didn't always respond when Anita and Eric sent us cards. I did hear from Anita about a medical crisis of Eric's when he reacted badly to a medication.

But news of Anita's death hit Pam and me as a bit of a lightning bolt (and maybe a little guilt).

*Rest in peace.
Richard Oestreicher*

Richard Oestreicher - April 04 at 06:33 AM

NB

“ When I first heard the news from my parents, Geof and Reiko, I found it a little difficult to immediately surface specific memories of Nita, or "Ms. Nita" as I called her when I was younger (part of the "MsNitandMrEric!" smushed-together word I'd repeat excitedly when my parents told me they were coming over). I think this is because Nita and Eric are core to my memory of Pittsburgh, and my memory of growing up, as a whole. When I think of Pittsburgh, I think of how happy I was, whether 8 years old or 18, to meet Nita and Eric in front of the Manor Theatre, ready to watch a movie together. I think of how much I learned in conversations lasting long into the night, sometimes on our back deck in Oakland in the summer, sometimes at the Squirrel Hill Eat'N Park over a cup of coffee after dinner. I think about hopping in the car to join my father driving Nita and Eric home hoping to come into their apartment and hang out for just a bit longer. I think of coming home on holidays and feeling how much warmth and love I felt when Nita asked me for updates on my life. I especially enjoyed talking to them both this past Christmas about what Boston was like when they lived there.

To put it simply, Nita and Eric are family to me. Some of the closest people to my heart, and I know to my parents' hearts as well. I count myself lucky I had the privilege of spending so much time, learning so much knowledge, feeling so much love, from a wonderful, beautiful soul. I most regret not being able to convey this as plainly to her as I wish I could have. But I also trust she felt that love from Eric, her family, my parents, and the many people whose lives she clearly touched and shaped for the better.

Nick Becker - April 03 at 03:23 PM

FH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Funeral Home - April 02 at 11:57 AM

JS

“ *Anita was so kind all of the time. From the first time I met her over a decade ago, she was always ready to lend a helping hand and provide her support and guidance. She was an amazing person and will be sorely missed. My deepest sympathies to her family.*

Joe Suyama - April 01 at 01:03 PM

RM

“ *I was so saddened to hear about Anita. Having known her for a decade at Magee, I will always remember her as a truly kind soul and a wonderful colleague. She brought such dedication and compassion to everything she did. She will be greatly missed, and I am sending my deepest sympathies to her family.*

Ragi Murugan - April 01 at 11:40 AM

CF

“ My condolences to you and your family. Anita was one of my favorite people at Magee. I appreciated the time she dedicated to helping our team, always remembering birthdays and special events. She was very passionate about her work; and I enjoyed our conversations about her travels. Anita will be missed by all who knew her. She had a kind heart and passion for life. May the memories of your life together provide you comfort.

Cindy Frosztega

Cindy Frosztega - March 30 at 09:24 PM

RH

“ I was sad to hear that Anita died. She was a remarkable, superior person. Although I remember her as reserved, she was always a “force” in any interaction because of her intelligence, confidence, and engagement. Whenever I interacted in a group that included Anita, I found my attention was focused first on her reactions to whatever topic was under discussion. Although her partner, Eric, had a dramatic, larger-than-life quality, it was always Anita who defined the context and had the greater “moral gravity.” She was also profoundly competent and wise. Although, Eric was usually the lead spokesperson for their joint projects, I quickly learned that Anita was often dominant in production of the work. Together they created several important and high-impact journalistic reports and some major historical works. Their slide shows documenting the Homestead Steel Works strikes, management oppression, the eventual economic decline, and the impact of these events on workers and residents are some of the most informative and emotionally gripping documentaries ever produced. The world is a bit darker without Anita in it ... just some memories from an old friend, Reid Hastie (03/29/26)

Reid Hastie - March 30 at 04:40 PM



“ Anita and I were yearbook editors together at Atlantic Union College more than half a century ago. She was a delight to work with, always generous with her time and attention. We both liked getting things done, and that year the project was done early and under budget. I am glad to have known her. This picture is from 1970.



Susan O'Neill - March 30 at 01:45 PM

JN

*My mother Sarah Murphy and Anita Alverio's mother were dear close friends and we visited often as Anita was a slender and elegant gifted artist who would soon inspire and encourage me to join Greater NY Academy's Yearbook Staff - and that set a course for a teaching career as a HS Yearbook Advisor-- for which Anita's continued dedication for her own life pursuits continued to influence me .
What an example she set in my younger years - that lasted . I did thank her --from learning artistry and editing skills -- and living a worthy life .
So grateful for her example .*

Judith E. Nelson - April 11 at 11:28 PM

MF

“ Anita was the kind of person every workplace hopes to have, the person you could always count on. Steady, dependable, and fully committed to doing right by her team, her coworkers, and Magee. If you came to her with a question she didn't know, she made it her mission to find the answer or to find someone who did. Anita cared deeply for her team, her division, and so many others across our organization with a rare kind of dedication. She made everyone around her feel supported and valued and helped to make work feel lighter, safer, and more human.

But Anita was more than an exceptional coworker, she was a friend. Someone who showed up with heart, who listened, who lifted others up, and who made even the hardest days feel manageable. Her kindness, her generosity, her accountability, and her quiet strength made a lasting impact on everyone around her. She will be missed by so many.

Anita, my dear coworker and friend, I already miss you more than words can say. I am so grateful to have worked alongside you for the past 13 years.

Rest in peace.

Eric, may you be comforted by your love and by the beautiful, sweet memories that will forever remain in your heart.

♥ Murph (Mary Beth Fitzhenry)

Mary Beth Fitzhenry - March 29 at 10:51 PM

RB

“ Nita was our friend for decades and we will miss her dearly. From her kindness to a great sense of humor, we appreciated every minute of being in her company. She loved our son Nick and was always supportive of anything we were going through over the years. She had an old soul and was admirably sensitive when relating to all but especially with indigenous peoples and nature. We send our deepest condolences to her friends and family, especially her husband Eric.

Reiko and Geof Becker - March 29 at 05:23 PM

CS

“ I have been friends with Anita for nearly 30 years. I am overwhelmed by all of the things I'd like to tell everyone about her. I guess I can start with this: When you were with Anita, you felt seen and appreciated. Her warmth, empathy, and curiosity toward others are qualities that the world needs. She genuinely cared about your stories, your travails, your kids, your opinions - and always had a thoughtful little gift and a cup of tea to share. Of course she was brilliant, and talented. But above all, Anita was generous of spirit. Her ability to connect and her genuine love of people that are what to me are most essential in my memories of her. These very qualities are what all of us who were lucky enough to call her a friend need to take into the world. Much love to you, Eric. ❤️

Christina Szejc - March 29 at 12:53 PM

TC

“ Anita was my friend. I write this with a true meaning of a friend. She cared. She listened. She expressed empathy with my concerns and losses. It will be truly special to me that I spent an afternoon with her the day before she passed. We did the usual pleasures of talking and walking together on a pleasant spring day. We shared the going ons in our lives as we always did. This is what I will miss. Anita and I especially shared our feminism and our commitment to be good citizens. Women's issues were of great concern to us. We never missed celebrating International Women's Day and Women's History Month. In celebrating women, we acknowledged the history of the women suffragists who fought for our right to vote. This is why Anita worked for 20 years on every Election Day as an Allegheny County Poll Worker in her neighborhood district. In her honor, I request that you Vote as she did as Her Right. Anita, my friend. I truly will miss you.
Theresa (Terry) Chalich

Theresa Chalich - March 29 at 06:57 AM

CM

Anita was a kind generous soul that truly loved people. The world was a better place because of her. I hope her friends have learned her creed and will continue with her spirit guiding them. Anita, you will be missed 💔

Carol Morihlatko - March 30 at 11:22 AM

ED

“*Eric talks about him and Anita working at WYEP-FM radio station "back in the day." They won many Golden Quill Awards in many categories for their work. He describes researching one of their award-winning documentaries, on the Leona Theater in Homestead, PA. There are several photos here of Anita at work in the radio production room -- And there is a wonderful photo of Anita and Eric holding just some of the many Golden Quill Awards they won in radio journalism: Click here:*

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bp8N80_MxII

Eric Leif Davin - March 28 at 05:14 PM

PF

Eric and Anita's "Weekly Reader" program on WYEP was the absolute best of what COMMUNITY radio is about. Anita was so gracious and yet dog-with-a-bone tenacious in pursuing justice, truth, and respect for all. I'm proud and grateful to be part of the WR radio production team in the early 80s. While we may lose touch of old friends, a select few have a permanent presence. I can hear your soft and inquisitive voice even now, Anita.

Peter Fadde - March 29 at 06:10 PM

PC

I worked with Anita and Eric at his newspaper. It was a pleasure to work with both of them.

Patty C. - March 30 at 09:25 PM

SA

“ My Aunt Anita though I did not get to spend as much time with her as I would have liked; I see now every memory, every smile, and every laugh (one of my favorite things about her was her laugh) is something I will always treasure. We all have people in our lives who leave an impression and I know my Aunt Anita was one of those people. She will ALWAYS be loved and truly missed.

Susan Alverio - March 28 at 04:43 PM

RL

This was written by me Anita's niece.

Rachelle Loughin - March 28 at 04:53 PM

SA

“ My sister Anita, it is difficult to put into words the depth of loss that comes with losing a sister. Especially, one who was such a significant part of my life. We would talk on the phone every Sunday. There are so many things I wish I could say and so many moments I wish we had shared. But, one thing I know for sure is that my sister was an intelligent, strong, and unique soul. Someone who brought light into every room she entered. I love my sister very much and I will miss her tremendously.

Susan Alverio - March 28 at 04:43 PM

JC

“ Every May and November for over 20 years we spent at least 14 hours together, working side by side at the election polls. We had amazing conversations about family life, politics, work place and numerous other topics. Because of her I learned a lot of new information and alternatives to my decision making. Anita and Eric became my friends. Together they were a force filled with a wealth of information. Our days were long but it was always filled with laughter and kindness. Anita would go out of her way to help, never a mean bone in her body. Her kindness was infectious. There would be times Eric would put on his professor’s hat and she gently rained him in. He would always say, “you’re right Anita” I loved our dynamic, we’re a great team and I will miss her dearly! Know that she is now your guardian angel and she is still walking beside you. Your 50 years together is book worthy. Add a book to your collection about the love of your life and travels. You guys were always together and you still are in mind and spirit.
Julia Clemm

julia clemm - March 28 at 11:53 AM

MS

“ Before me lies a slender book—Anita’s travel journal, written in the days after our Road Scholar journey to the ancient pueblos of the Four Corners: New Mexico, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona. With such care she recorded every place we visited, every wonder shaped by wind, stone, and human hands, preserving them in her precise words and luminous photographs.

Now, opening its pages, I see the enigmatic ruins of Chaco again through Anita’s eyes. Like her, I wonder how the ancient Pueblo people lived in that austere land where the horizon seems endless and food scarce. I try to imagine their rituals in the vast kivas—subterranean chambers where they gathered, perhaps in darkness and firelight, to speak with their gods.

I remember Anita climbing the narrow passages to Cliff Palace in Mesa Verde with quiet courage, pausing along the way to photograph all of us, capturing our fleeting moment against the deep time of the canyon walls. Later, in the small museum at the visitors’ center, she bent over a microscope, absorbed in examining the pigments of ancient pottery—her particular delight.

Anita is gone now. But her little book remains. I keep it as a small vessel of memory: of the red deserts and silent ruins, of a journey and time shared, and of the friend who saw everything so attentively and saved it for us in words and light.

Marina Sonkina

Marina Sonkina - March 28 at 11:46 AM

AP

“ Ms Anita, I had the pleasure of working the election polls with you, Eric and my mom. Those days were long but spending it with such a kind, passionate, witty and gentle person made it so much easier. I didn't know you well but I have distinct memories of our conversations and your kindness to my daughter and myself. I'm thankful to have met you. To Eric, my sincerest and deepest condolences during this time. Ms Anita will be missed.
Aumonn Pugh (Clemm)

Aumonn Pugh - March 28 at 11:08 AM

BM

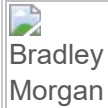
“ I remember Anita and Eric working on "The Weekly Reader" in the production room at the original WYEP studios on Cable Place in South Oakland. They produced a great show that received several awards. It was a honor to have known Anita. She will indeed be missed.

Bruce Mountjoy - March 28 at 07:45 AM

TK

“ Eric, I am so deeply sorry for your loss. Anita was truly remarkable. In my first year at Magee, I had her name for our Secret Santa exchange, and the thank-you note she wrote to me is something I will never forget—it felt like she was the one giving a gift. Her kindness, thoughtfulness, and beautiful way with words left a lasting impression on me. She was an amazing person, and she will be deeply missed. My thoughts are with you at this time.
- Teresa Kauffman

Teresa Kauffman - March 28 at 05:55 AM



Bradley
Morgan

“ Anita was the perfect fit for my brother. Opposites yet the same. They were juxtapose. A pair that you rarely find. Eric was truly blessed to have spent 50 years with her by his side.

Bradley Morgan - March 28 at 01:08 AM

NP

“ I only spent time with Anita once, over a dinner with her, Eric—a friend of many years from his Cambridge days—and George Goverman. That one time was enough for me to fall “in like” with her: with her warmth, her intelligence, and an indescribable depth and breadth of character, which Eric captures so well in his moving tribute. I am very grateful to Eric for introducing us, and feel deeply for him in his profound loss. May her memory be a blessing.

Nancy Pepper - March 27 at 05:20 PM

RC

“ Anita was in our shop every Saturday like clockwork. We were devastated to hear about her passing. We will never forget her infectious personality and smile. She was truly one in a million and will be sorely missed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her loving family. Love, Rocky and Carmela from Rocky's Tailor Shop

Rocky & Carmela - March 26 at 10:15 PM

LG

“ We are very grateful to have had Anita in our lives. She always had a moment to listen, and was genuinely interested. Her positive outlook in trying situations made us feel a little more upbeat after chatting with her. We certainly miss her. Lori and Don Group

Lori Group - March 26 at 09:12 PM



Bradley Morgan

U never heard one single negative think come from anita she definitelywas the calm to my brothers storm. The thing i remember most is the way she treated others. Finna miss having you in ourlives.

Bradley Morgan - March 27 at 09:03 PM

FS

“ *from Marina Sonkina purchased the Blue Caribbe an Bouquet for the family of Anita Deloris Alverio.*



from Marina Sonkina - March 26 at 12:16 AM

MM

“ *As long as I've known Anita she never spoken ill of any person, always cheerful and was genuinely interested in what you had to say. Sometimes you get the feeling people are just polite and really not interested in what you are saying, I never felt that from her. She was my brothers love and best friend and it's going to be hard without his other half. Always tell those around you how much you love them because there may not be a tomorrow to tell them. Rest in peace Anita. The world was better because you were in it.*

Morgan M. Morgan - March 25 at 09:23 PM

GG

“ *A beautiful and faithful tribute. I'll always remember her bright enthusiasm for life.*

George Goverman - March 25 at 09:21 PM