



## *Rose Marie Hill*

*31 May 1976 ~ 8 January 2008*

Rose Marie Hill, 31, passed away peacefully, at home, on January 8, 2008, in Seattle WA. Rose was born in San Diego CA, and moved to Port Orchard WA, in 1979, at the age of three. She attended schools at Bible Baptist Church, Cedar Heights JH, and Sedgwick JH and graduated from SK High in 1994, where she was very active in student government, Acting Ensemble, cheerleading and the Head Start Program at Olympic College in Bremerton.

Rose was diagnosed with breast cancer in 1997, at the age of 21, while a senior at Wells College in Ithaca NY. She completed her course of studies there all while undergoing treatment and earned her BFA in the spring of 1998. She went on to earn a Master in Fine Art (MFA) at the School of the Museum for Fine Arts (SMFA), Boston, MA in 2004.

After graduation, Rose traveled the world as a performance artist in 2004-2006. She performed in United States, Canada, Chili, Ireland, Poland, and traveled to numerous other places; Italy, Germany, Morocco, Tunis, France, England, Spain, Portugal, New Zealand, Panama, it was her goal to visit every continent. The SMFA in Boston will award an annual *Rose Hill Performance Award* in honor of Rose's contributions to performance art.

Rose moved back to Seattle in 2004, and began a master's program at *Gevirtz Graduate School of Education, University of California Santa Barbara, CA*. She earned a Master's Degree in Counseling and Clinical Psychology in May of 2008. She completed her studies with honors.

Rose loved people and she loved life. The aggressive cancer she endured never went into remission; however, she never let her illness or treatment stop her from accomplishing her goals in education and the personal experiences she longed for, and she had many; she fished for the summer on an Alaskan fishing boat, participated in building homes for homeless in Texas, she was a sky-diver, sea-plane pilot, bi-plane enthusiast, para-sailor, motorcyclist, violinist, ballerina, banjo player, singer, song-writer, author and other ventures too numerous to name here. Rose used her vast experiences to touch other people's lives for the better. Above all Rose loved her family and her friends and we will miss her infectious zest for life; she truly lived the mantra "seize the day" or "carpe diem." Rose's favorite song, "*It Is Well (with My Soul)*," personifies that Rose lived well and she has gone to a better place where she is indeed *well* in every sense of the word, today and forever.

Rose is survived by her companion of two years, Heather Warncke, and her parents, Ginger (Michael) Kulpit of Poulsbo WA, Chuck (Michele) Hill of Olympia, siblings; Chrystie Hill of Seattle, Andrew Hill of Spokane WA, Trudee Hill of Seattle, Tonya (David) De Loma of West Richland WA, Karen (Tom) of Olympia WA and her paternal grandmother Ilene Lee Hill Mays of El Cajon CA and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Rose was preceded in death by her maternal grandparents, Russell Richardson in 2001, and Mildred Richardson in 2006, both of Edgewood NM. She was also preceded in death by her paternal grandfather Charles W. Hill of Olympia WA in 2003.

A celebration of Rose's life will be held in Seattle WA on March 29, location will be published at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the *Rose M. Hill Memorial Fund* to benefit the *Rose Hill Performance Award* at Navy Federal Credit Union, 2238 NW BUCKLIN HILL RD STE 100, SILVERDALE WA 98383-8530.