



## Rita Mladineo Brown

September 26, 1964 - March 1, 2014

### Rita Mladineo Brown

Rita Mladineo Brown, 49, died March 1st, 2014, in Wenatchee, Washington after a life well lived. Rita's vibrant personality lit up every room and no one who met her left without a smile. Her warmth, elegance and passion for life inspired all who had the privilege of knowing her.

Rita was born in New Orleans, Louisiana, on September 26th, 1964. She grew up in Renton, Washington and attended college at Western Washington University, where she met the love of her life, John Brown. After graduating, Rita and John married and moved to Wenatchee where they have raised their amazing children (Nicole, 23, Hayley, 20 and Mason, 12) and lived for 27 years.

Rita had a successful career in communications where her boundless energy and enthusiasm led to a number of interesting positions including media consulting, Station Manager & Development Director for Northwest Public Radio and Executive Director of the Wenatchee Performing Arts Center.

In spite of her lengthy illness, Rita retained her optimism and sense of humor. Her first priority was always to her family and her wide circle of friends. She was a fiercely loyal cheerleader to her parents (Joan & Tony Mladineo); her

siblings and their spouses (Jan & Nelson Davis, Greg & Karen Mladineo, Judy Mladineo & Jeff Morgan, Rob Mladineo); her niece and nephews (Mark Mladineo, Jennifer Mladineo, Patrick Moran, Kevin Brown and Kyle Brown), her aunts, uncles, cherished cousins and the many friends and neighbors who made up her extended family.

Rita's greatest life lesson to us: Choose Joy!

A visitation service will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 6-8 pm at Jones and Jones-Betts Funeral Home, Wenatchee. Rita's funeral service will be held on Thursday, March 6th, 11am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Wenatchee. Memorial donations would be appreciated in Rita's name to Catherine Place: [www.catherineplace.org](http://www.catherineplace.org) Please express your thoughts and memories on the online guest book at [jonesjonesbetts.com](http://jonesjonesbetts.com). Arrangements are by Jones & Jones-Betts Funeral Home.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 5. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Jones & Jones ~ Betts Funeral Home  
302 9thStreet  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 662-1561  
dante@jonesjonesbetts.com

## Service

MAR 6. 11:00 AM (PT)

St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
625 S Elliott  
Wenatchee, WA 98801  
(509) 662-4569  
<http://www.stjosephwen.org/>

# Tribute Wall



“ Jones & Jones - Betts Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Mladineo Brown



Jones & Jones~Betts Funeral Home - March 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM

DD

“ I was blessed to grow up with the Mladineo's as our next door neighbors. They were a huge family with BBQs every weekend in their backyard. Rita was like an older sister to me and the best babysitter I ever had....she 'let' me eat chocolate chip cookie dough!!! I was sad went she went off to college and then we lost touch, but it looks like she had an amazing family and my heart goes out to her husband and children, and her parents Joan & Tony. I am so sorry.. I didn't know she was ill and I was surprised to hear this terrible news. My thoughts are with you and know that she is at peace.



With Love,  
Diana (Dreisbach) Dandridge

Diana Dreisbach Dandridge - April 04, 2014 at 11:18 AM

AF

“ In high school, Rita was one of my favorite people! In my heart, a favorite person to this day. Her positive energy and humor were contagious- I treasure the time we spent together, especially our bike tour in Germany and France. My heart goes out to her family and friends during this sad time.

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**Ann Friedrichsen** - March 23, 2014 at 02:43 PM

SA

“ My name is Steve Attri. When I was 10 years old, my family moved to a new neighborhood and I also ended up at a new school. As I have looked back on my life, I have realized that this was one of my toughest times. It was hard to make new friends and I even ended up in fights. I'll always remember the nicest person I met, and that was Rita. It turned out that I lived right across the street from her. It was always good to know I had a friend nearby. I am very sad to know that Rita is no longer with us. I send my condolences to her great family and friends.

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**Steve Attri** - March 12, 2014 at 09:51 PM

SD

“ We send our deepest sympathy to Rita's family and friends. She was such a vibrant, positive person. We feel privileged to have known her.

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**Shirley & Jim Davis** - March 06, 2014 at 10:37 AM

CO

“ Dear John and family:

*I was so sad to hear of Rita's passing. Please know that my thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time. If there is anything I can do to ease your burden please contact me.*

*Respectfully,  
A good friend from your past,  
Cam Oliver*

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**Cameron Oliver** - March 06, 2014 at 05:23 AM

EG

“ *With great sadness and empathy we read of Rita's passing in the Seattle Times. We've known Tony and Joan for many years and Tony from our childhood days at St. Patrick's grade school in Tacoma - happy memories indeed. We do feel a bit of a bond inasmuch as we also lost a daughter (at age 44) after a lengthy illness some seven years ago. So you are all very much in our thoughts and prayers. With sincere and deep condolences. Edna Lou and Burt Goodman, Tacoma, WA.*

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**Edna Lou Goodman** - March 05, 2014 at 12:49 PM