

Hi. I am sorry I am unable to be with you in person, but wanted to share my thoughts in this way.

My name is Scott Martin and I am Della's only nephew. Della's sister, Gloria Martin, is my Mom. Unfortunately, my Mom has advanced Alzheimer's and can not celebrate Della's life with us today.

I was privileged to be with Della last week as she prepared to meet Jesus, who she loved so much, and who was preparing Della's place in heaven so she could join loved ones who have preceded her.

It was difficult to see Della passing, but at the same time, glorious to know she would soon be in heaven. And it was a sacred blessing to hold Della's hand, smile and let her know how much I loved and cared for her - and see her smile back, even when she couldn't talk any longer. And see Della move past restlessness, to sleep, when I hummed Amazing Grace 🙏 It was also very special for me to let Della know how much I valued the love she has ALWAYS shown me, since I was a little boy, to present day ... and always done with genuine curiosity and caring, and without judgement.

I want to share 10 words with you that jump into my mind when I think of Della.

1. Joyous
2. Smiling
3. Caring
4. Non-Judgemental
5. Generous
6. Laughing
7. Loving
8. Spiritual
9. Vibrant
10. Beautiful, dare I say Glamorous (so I guess I have 11 words :-))

Mostly I will remember how much Della "lit up" while engaging with me and the other people in her life, whether family, friends, or new people in various micro-moments. Yes,

Della certainly loved a bit of glitz, but she gave back by lighting up the room and everyone in it :-)

I'll miss her for sure, but Della's spirit will continue to endure always in my heart 💜

Thank you for joining to celebrate Della's life well-lived 🙏