



Natsue McDonald

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20 January 1973 – 7 September 2023

Natsue Tajima McDonald, passed peacefully and unexpectedly on September 7, 2023 at the age of 50 after suffering a sudden brain aneurysm. Natsue was born on January 20, 1973 in Toyama, Japan and grew up at the foot of the Japanese Alps. After a chance birthday celebration, she met her future husband Paul, who was also celebrating his January 20th birthday. Natsue moved to New Orleans in early 2001. After several years working as a sushi chef at Ninja and Kanno, Natsue began her career in early childhood education at Louise S. McGehee School's Little Gate. With only the love of her own children being greater, Natsue greatly loved her Little Gators. For seventeen years, she was a beloved teacher and colleague who was known for her kindness, generosity and care of others. Natsue loved traveling the American West with her family during the summer break as her husband Paul is also an educator, teaching at the Stuart Hall School for Boys. After overcoming her initial horror of crawfish, she came to love crawfish and life in southern Louisiana; including many wonderful fishing trips with her father-in-law and family. Natsue was preceded in death by her parents. Natsue is survived by her husband Paul, and children NeNe, 16, and Harutaro(Taro), 13, her sisters Masayo and Hiromi (McClurg) and younger brother Kosuke as well as a beloved nephew and three nieces. In one last selfless act, Natsue was able to continue helping others to the last moment through organ donation. A Celebration of Life will be held at the Pavilion of Two Sisters inside of City Park on Saturday, September 16th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the LOPA Foundation.

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