



## LaVonna Kay Henum Prevost

April 25, 1951 - October 22, 2017

LaVonna Kay Henum Prevost, 66, of Cloquet, was doing something she loved, walking, when she was tragically killed as the result of an auto pedestrian accident Sunday, October 22, 2017. She was born April 25, 1951 in Duluth, the daughter of William and Mae Henum.

LaVonna was a Para-professional in the Hermantown Public Schools for a number of years, retiring in 2016. She was an avid walker and enjoyed baking, sewing, watching sports, especially her grandson Carter's sporting events, reading, and doing yard work. She loved to travel, making special trips to Montana to visit Sterling, and had the goal to visit all seven continents with Carter. LaVonna also loved to knit and generously gave her knitted creations to family, friends and charity. She could also put on one heck of an Easter egg hunt. LaVonna completed eight Garry Bjorklund Half Marathons and had recently registered for her 9th.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her two beloved yorkies, Elliott and Endicott.

LaVonna was deeply loved and will be missed by her children, Kristi (Mark) Prevost-Vork of Cloquet and Andy (Kimberly) Prevost of Havre, MT; grandchildren, Carter Vork and Sterling Prevost; brother, LaVern "Bub" (Deb) Henum of Kingston, MN; nieces, April Johnson and Traci Gasper and many friends.

A gathering of family and friends will be from 5 – 8 p.m., Friday, October 27, 2017 in the Fireside Room of Atkins-Northland Funeral Home, 801 14th Street, Cloquet. To honor LaVonna's memory, please take a walk or participate in a 5K race.

# Comments

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“ LaVonna was the bright face that ALWAYS entered every room with a positive attitude and her infectious smile. Hermantown Middle School was so lucky to have her as a PARA for so many years. Whenever she approached me, I knew I was going to hear a funny story, breaking news, or an interesting inquiry! I'm sorry I was out of town and unable to celebrate a wonderful woman who surely will be missed by so many. My heart is very heavy.

Sunshine - November 03, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ I am so saddened to read this..LaVonna was such a lovely person! I met her when she worked with Bob.. she was so friendly and always smiling. My condolences go out to her family, who she loved so much.. May she Rest In Peace... Sincerely,  
Sandy Howden

October 30, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ Remembering Lavonna with fond memories of warm laughter and genuine kindness.

Golden Glass Stripes - October 28, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ LaVonna was a truly beautiful and wonderful woman! I started working with her at the Cloquet Middle School and our paths again crossed years later in Hermantown. She was a dedicated and caring friend whose guidance and strength to all the students lives she touched will never be forgotten. She inspired us all with her positive attitude and never ending zest for life. May her memory be eternal!  
Ruthie Breuer

Candle of Peace - October 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ LaVonna is a beautiful person. She has positive energy and always a smile on her face. She sure did like to walk and was passionate about getting out there. There are so few people like her with such a big loving heart. She always thought of others and put them before herself. Her spirit and smile live on through all those she has touched with her kindness and grace. She was so proud of her grandchildren and kids and loves them a lot. We are all better people for knowing her. Today she sends us a little snow to brighten our day. Marty Tabor



“ Carter and family, our prayers and thoughts are with you at this sad time. We were very fortunate to meet LaVonna and Carter on their adventure to Egypt.. We have lots of wonderful memories. Anne & Jim Horne

October 27, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ LaVonna and I dated in HS our Jr & Sr years. We shared many fun time and great memories. After we moved on to meet other people, the next five years when I brought a girlfriend over to meet my parents, my mother always called the new girlfriend LaVonna. I think she was trying to tell me something. LaVonna loved her family very much. My prayers and thoughts reach out to her family. LaVonna will be missed by many.

October 26, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ LaVonna worked in my daughter's 5th grade classroom and was an AMAZING person to have present. She was so kind and sweet to all the children and my daughter truly loved her. My daughter still has a note that LaVonna gave her on the last day of school prominently displayed on her desk, where it has sat for the last 2 years. She will be greatly missed. Such an amazing woman, gone way too early.

Nicole Harriman

October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ My deepest condolences to the family of LaVonna. Kindness is what I will remember forever about LaVonna. It didn't matter if LaVonna knew you or not, there were always sweet, kind words and a hug if needed. I was lucky enough to have worked with LaVonna at Hermantown Schools. God has a wonderful angel in heaven, just hope he can keep up with her! Gone to soon without a doubt.

Sunshine - October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ We had great pleasure of knowing Lavonna thru Hermantown High School where she took great care for our Devon who was in a wheelchair, Dev adored Ms Lavonna. Our hearts dropped when we heard this on the news. She will forever be remembered by us. Our deepest Condolences.

Doug Swanstron  
Devon Swanstrom  
Tania Sazama

October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ I was one of those lucky enough to not only have LaVonna as a co-worker, but also a dear friend, and my partner in crime :) She&#8217;ll get that last one. I remember the kind, sweet and caring woman that everyone remembers, but I also remember along with the sweet, the sassy lady, with a glint of mischief in her eyes. Oh, how I loved that lady. I don&#8217;t remember a conversation where she didn&#8217;t talk about her family, especially her grandsons, with such fierce pride and love. They were her world. I can only say the world is a little less brighter here, but heaven is truly lucky to have gained such a incredible angel.

October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ Last night I looked back on an email I received from LaVonna on my birthday . . . and she referred to me as her 'dear friend'! She spent a year in my classroom as a para and she was a godsend. We shared happy times, frustrating days, and we both treasured the intrinsic rewards that come from working with children. My 'dear friend' stopped by school two weeks ago for a visit and I will be forever grateful for that time we spent together. LaVonna will be forever in my heart.

**Heart** - October 25, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ There are others who knew Lavonna better than I. There are those who worked with Lavonna longer than I; but the degree to which she touched my family's life cannot be measured in those factors, but, rather, by kindness, and there have been few people who I have ever encountered that are as kind-hearted as Lavonna. From the moment I started working in Hermantown, Lavonna went out of her way to be friendly with me, and made it a point to come by and see me in the morning, or the afternoon once she had concluded one of her famous walks around the campus. Though I never had her in my room as a para, I always felt like the relationship she and I had was more one of friends than it was co-workers.

There is no story I can share that better exemplifies this than when Lavonna found out that my wife, Amy, and I were having our daughter, Juliana. Lavonna immediately sought me out, gave me a hug, and asked what color we were going to paint Juliana's nursery. Though she wouldn't tell me why she wanted to know the color, she gave me that wry Lavonna smile that said, "You'll find out when you need to find out, and you'll be happy when you do."

Over the next several months, Lavonna would always ask how Amy was doing during the pregnancy, and would tell me, periodically, that she was almost done with her gift. When the time came, shortly before Juliana was born, Lavonna presented to me a hand-knit blanket, hat, and set of baby boots in a purple very similar to what Amy and I had chosen for Juliana's room. The joy in Lavonna's eyes when she handed that gift to me was, and remains, indescribable. It was immediately clear to me that Lavonna had poured every ounce of love she could into the making of these items, and it was a tremendous honor to receive them.

When Juliana was born, Amy and I knew that the blanket we wanted Juliana to come home in was the blanket that Lavonna made specially for her. It was important to us that Juliana be surrounded by not only the love of her family, but by the love of others as she came into the world. The blanket was a perfect symbol of that love. In the days, weeks, and months that followed Lavonna would always ask about Juliana, and her questions were genuine. She truly cared. That's who Lavonna was; she was someone who had love in spades, and wanted to share that love with others.

Having worked directly with Kristi for years, it is abundantly clear to me that the apple certainly did not fall very far from the kindness tree, and that Lavonna will live on through her, and the kindnesses they have performed for us all.

**Candle of Love** - October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ Our thoughts and Prayers for Kristi, Andy, and their families of this wonderful lady and friend. God Bless you during this difficult time.

**Purple Glass Glow** - October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ I remember when Andy played hockey with my son Cory Winterquist, her and I had alot of fun at tourneys and on the hockey association. She was a wonderful lady with a very big heart.

This is so sad....My condolences to Kristi, Andy and their families.

Cindy Rubesh

Cloquet

**Dove** - October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ I never had the pleasure to work directly with LaVonna but I got to see her in action from afar at Hermantown Elementary School. Her pixie haircut and big smile were easy to spot in the halls. It was always my hope that she would be assigned to a student in my classroom so I could get to know her better. I was never lucky enough to see that happen. She was so good with the students who she helped and guided. I am so sorry for your loss as she was a bright light in this sometimes dark world.

My prayers go out to her family and friends.

Jeanne Eng

October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ LaVonna always had a smile on her face, something kind to say, and was incredibly upbeat and positive! She touched many lives and will be missed.

October 24, 2017 at 12:00 AM

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“ My sympathies to your family in the loss of your loved one, Lavonna. She was a classmate of mine many years ago. I remember her as being a leader and friendly to everyone. She lives on in all of you, as I am sure she has left her mark in all of your lives. Take care and carry her memories deep within your heart and she will always be with you.

**Candle of Peace** - October 23, 2017 at 12:00 AM