



## River Lightwomoon

May 13, 1950 - January 6, 2019

Big Stone Gap, Virginia/Seminary Community

River Lightwomoon 68, finished her journey on this earth on January 6, 2019. She was born in Suffern, NY on May 13, 1950 to Samuel Cooperstein and Claire Stadeker Cooperstein.

River was a child of the 60's and was involved with peace activism and in LGBTQ rights. She was a Sufi Muslim. She was a fabulous sister, sister-in-law, and aunt. She was also loved by all her friends, too many to count, in Big Stone Gap, VA and Woodstock, NY, as well as other places around the world. She is survived by brothers Mark and Carl Cooperstein, sister-in-law Dr. Elizabeth Cooperstein, nieces Irene Stein and Kathleen Cooperstein and nephew Joe Cooperstein and niece-in-law Stephanie Cooperstein.

The family wishes to thank Samantha Mason, Kelley Pearson and Hospice and Palliative Care of Virginia for easing this passage.

She will be privately interred in Riverview Cemetery in East Stone Gap, Virginia

Family and friends will serve as pallbearers.

You may go online to view the obituary, sign the guest registry, or leave the family a condolence at [www.holdingfuneralhome.com](http://www.holdingfuneralhome.com)

Holding Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of River Lightwomoon.

# Tribute Wall



“ *River Lightwomoon*

October 07, 2023 at 10:50 AM



“ *wise and direct  
loving and tender  
strident and peaceful  
you left your mark...  
it was an honor having you in my life*

*with all my love,  
Kobi*



**Kobi** - March 25, 2023 at 03:36 PM



“ *3 files added to the album memories*



**susun** - September 06, 2022 at 03:14 PM

Sean  
Cooney

“ I agree with all the tributes that I've read and then some. I kept calling her as much as I could, as I do others, because life is short and nobody knows when. And then it's too late, but I did call. We liked each other. I knew her a long time, and she always came and did service for a very special program when I asked that I wouldn't have known her; thanks to the great John H. Condolences to her family and if you need to connect with me let me know here. Sean

Sean Cooney - January 12, 2019 at 07:52 PM

RP

“ River was a remarkable woman who gave freely of her time, energy, talents, and above all, love to help hundreds of people in distress. As the chair of a non-profit board, she helped me become a much better board member than I thought I could be. She also was deligthful with a wry sense of humor that made our challenges easier to resolve for the best result for all. We all will miss her, yet she leaves a legacy of service and love that will influence future generations who, though perhaps they will never hear her name, will be supported by her critical contributions and boosted by her indomitable spirit that imbues our organization. With my most sincere sympathies to her family and close friends and with my deepest gratitude to the many who cared for her with love through the last several years. Robert P.



Robert Perry - January 11, 2019 at 06:07 PM

AA

“ So blessed to be able to spend time with River and another, since deceased, friend driving from NY to Phillie and back, sharing jokes and stories. She was a special person who inspired many.  
Allen A.

Allen A. - January 11, 2019 at 11:03 AM

CJ

“ *River was an important mentor to me and a dear, dear friend. Her work and service to others were far-reaching and she touched many, many people's lives. Few people ever made me laugh as hard as she did. I will miss her.*

*Peace and love to her family and friends, especially to those who cared for her in recent years. Thank you.*

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**Carla J.** - January 10, 2019 at 05:22 PM

ES

“ *River was a very bright light for a non-profit we both served. I remember her enthusiasm and devotion to the cause when she became a Trustee and mentor to many. Much love and support to her friends and family on growing this incredible, strong flower, River Lightwomoon. Rest In Peace.*  
*Esther Himbaugh Treadway*

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**Esther** - January 10, 2019 at 04:56 PM

SG

“ *Although I hadn't talked to River in a while, I was just thinking about her recently. I will always, always treasure the times we did spend together. So many gifts, to so many. Deeply grateful for the shoulder she provided at a time I really needed one. Prayers to all the family, from deep in the heart of Texas.*



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**Suze Guerra** - January 10, 2019 at 03:41 PM

LT

“ *Lynne Tull lit a candle in memory of River Lightwomoon*



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**Lynne Tull** - January 10, 2019 at 01:07 AM

SC

“ *Stephanie Cranston lit a candle in memory of River Lightwomoon*



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**Stephanie Cranston** - January 09, 2019 at 03:55 PM

JR

“ *Jamie Rogers lit a candle in memory of River Lightwomoon*



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**Jamie Rogers** - January 09, 2019 at 12:46 PM

JR

*While it is deeply saddening that our friend of many decades is no longer here with us, she is very much alive in my memory. River always brought unexpected light into my and other peoples lives.*

*With gratitude,*

*Jamie (Cary) Rogers*

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**Jamie Rogers** - January 09, 2019 at 12:53 PM



“ *Kathy Kleineick lit a candle in memory of  
River Lightwomoon*



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**Kathy Kleineick** - January 09, 2019 at 10:21 AM