

# Debra Brooks Feazelle

Born Debra Lynn Brooks on August 14, 1957 to Richard L. and Bess Rollins Brooks, in Lake Charles, LA, Debbie died at her home on Galveston Bay in La Porte Texas on February 25, 2010 after a 16-year battle with breast cancer.

Diagnosed from her first mammogram at 36, Debbie beat many odds of the disease through aggressive and experimental treatments and her positive attitude toward not letting the cancer run her life. Always the athlete, she joined the fight for the cure and set a goal of running 99 different Komen races, of which she eventually ran over 50, often placing in the top survivors group. She served on the local Susan B. Komen Foundation board of directors for several years.



Debbie's motto of work hard and play hard is evidenced by her amazing career and the love of many family and friends. Her public service career spanned almost 30 years. She first served the City of Lake Charles, LA, then moved to La Porte Texas as finance officer. She progressed to the cities of McKinney and Euless, Texas. She joined the City of Lubbock as an assistant city manager before returning to La Porte as City Manager in 2003. She retired in 2007. She received many accolades and accomplished many achievements in her public service career. In the public finance industry, she was active in the Texas Government Finance Officers Association, serving as president, as well as serving on the national GFOA board. After advancing to the city management field, she was active in International City/County Managers Association as well as Texas City Managers Association. She served on the University of North Texas Public Administration Advisory Board. She served in the La Porte Rotary Club as well as on the boards of numerous non-profit agencies.

Her friends and family will remember Debbie's high level of energy and her ability to include others with her enthusiasm. Her circles of friends spread around the states and across the globe. Her love of travel and zest for life has taken her around the world - through the Yukon on a Harley, 150 feet below through the Devils Throat at Punta Sur, the Indian Ocean on her honeymoon and two trips to her friends in New Zealand. If she wasn't travelling, she was busy planning the next trip.

She was preceded in death by her paternal grandparents, Zack R. and Elizabeth Midkiff Brooks; maternal grandparents George C. and Flora Pendegrass Rollins; and her brother, Richard L. Brooks, Jr. She is succeeded in death by her husband, Paul Feazelle; her parents, Richard L. and Bess Rollins Brooks; her daughter and future son-in-law, Brooklyn Mackenna Cole and Greg Bell; her sister, Becky L. Brooks; her niece and nephew, Alexandra and Benjamin Grimm; as well as aunts, uncles and cousins.

A short memorial service will be held at 1:30 pm, Saturday March 6 at the First Methodist Church in La Porte, Texas. In lieu of flowers, the family requests contributions in her honor go to the Komen foundation or to the UNT MPA Debra Brooks Feazelle Internship program at [https://development.unt.edu/givenow/givenow\\_gen.php](https://development.unt.edu/givenow/givenow_gen.php) be sure and designate it for Debra Feazelle or use #794. For mail contributions use: Debra Brooks Feazelle Internship Fund, University of North Texas, P.O. Box 310617, Denton, TX 76203.