

To: Northern Colorado Bridge Community
From: Burke Snowden
Date: July 14, 2025



My mom, Katie Snowden, passed away peacefully and surrounded by family this morning after an almost two-month battle with encephalitis. She was 66.

Anyone who played bridge in Fort Collins before my mom moved to Florida in 2018 could hardly have forgotten her. She made my journey of owning the Thursday night Ace of Clubs game possible, and she touched everyone's hearts along the way. Before that, she enabled my dream of playing duplicate bridge at all, starting from age 10. I am profoundly grateful to her for allowing me to meet and be mentored by all of you—it has been easily the most formative and important time in my life.

Encephalitis is a very nasty condition, and the medical community does not know much about it or a lot of brain disorders. In lieu of flowers, I request donations to the American Brain Foundation, so that others might have better outcomes from it in the future. <https://www.americanbrainfoundation.org/>

Alternatively, my mom rescued a pit bull whom she found chained to a fence about four years ago—a fact that will surprise nobody who knew her. I know she would also have appreciated donations to Plenty of Pit Bulls, a shelter in North Central Florida that rescues dogs about to be euthanized. <https://popb.org/>