

## Tribute to Christine A. Anderson

April 4, 1948 – January 23, 2021



Christine Anderson was born April 4, 1948 in Medina, New York. Pictured to the left are Chris and baby brother Tom with their parents. *We want to thank all of you for your thoughts, prayers, love, and support for Christine. Many of you have followed her fight for over a decade. The good news is the battle is over. She passed away Saturday evening at 7:10 PM at the Santiam Hospital in Lincoln City.*

*She will be missed by many. Tom was able to spend about the last 90 minutes of her life here on earth, at her side. He was so grateful for that precious time. We are also happy that she will not suffer any longer. The last few months were very challenging for her, but she continued on with grit, determined to beat the cancer. God bless you all for your love of Christine. Tom & Lynne Marks*



She grew up in Tacoma and married the love of her life, Jon "Andy" Anderson in 1980. Andy's daughters Annette and Kristine became her beloved stepdaughters. *"Chris was a tremendous human being and I loved having her as a stepmom. I know she missed Dad immensely and I find comfort in knowing that they're together again."* ❤️ Kris Anderson

They travelled the world together, settling in Neotsu in their lovely home within sight of the lake. Through the years, she, as the spouse of a master woodcarver, served in the carving club in many ways, even after Andy passed away. *"She was very special to all of us in the carving club."* Gary Lee

In her career as an elementary school teacher, she touched many lives. *"She was my 7th grade social studies teacher, always grateful to have her in my life for so many years. She will be missed dearly."* Amy Van Cleave-Singham *"Christine was such a breath of fresh air for my son, and an amazing human being. She is*

*missed."* Barbi England

One of her many artistic interests besides photography and quilting was calligraphy. She made many friends through Cyberscribes and as a member of the Capital Calligraphers. Starting in 1994-1995, Chris served as Corresponding Secretary, from 1997-98 as Recording Secretary, from 1999-2000 as Vice President, and from 2004-2006 as President. As President she competently organized year-long studies and renewed interest in lettering arts in Salem. She especially enjoyed envelope exchanges and even a tiny book exchange. She'd bring her examples to meetings for all to enjoy and learn from. Chris is pictured above at the "Passionate Pen" International Calligraphy Conference in California. She's wearing her conference t-shirt.



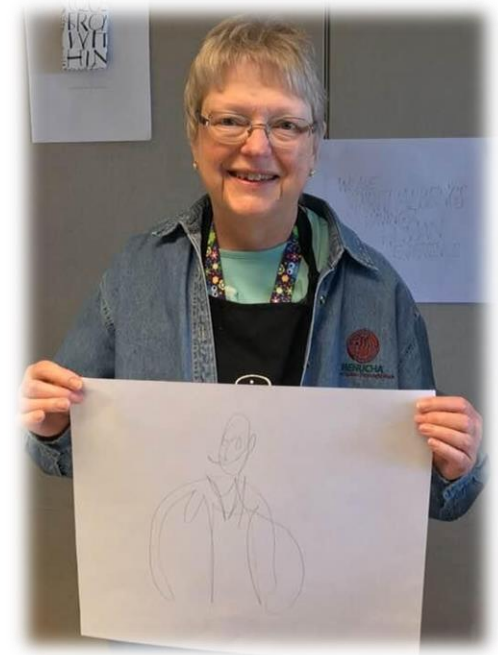
*I first met Chris when she joined the Capital Calligraphers, sometime in the 1980's. We shared laughs and friendship at our meetings. I came to admire her dedication to our group when I realized that she drove from the beach for our monthly meetings in Salem. She was an involved, contributing member, often volunteering for responsibilities and even serving as our President at one time. Chris loved learning and sharing whether it was calligraphy, photography or quilting. She attended workshops and conferences throughout the U. S. and Canada, always returning with new ideas and more friends. I visited Chris often in the last few years as she struggled with health problems. We'd have a cup of tea and she'd tell me about her latest hopes and dreams of projects. The last time she asked me to bring her something was before Thanksgiving when she had just moved from the hospital to the rehabilitation center in Dallas. She wanted a calligraphy pen, ink and some paper. I loved it that she was wanting to create amidst her physical struggles. She always had a smile and a positive, optimistic attitude. Chris was a teacher, world traveler, a lover of nature and life and so much more. Thanks for the memories. Trish Hibler*

*I really got to know Chris when she sat next to me at a Marina Soria workshop. I think it was called 'Calligraphy in Bloom.' Then Chris proposed we go to Seattleletters together. She did add that she did not know where she would be with her cancer treatments but wanted to plan to go if she was able. We agreed. She was able and she did most of the driving which totally amazed me. I am not that great of a driver and do not enjoy it but Chris certainly did and was happy to drive. We had separate classes and separate rooms but spent most of the other time and meals together. She was such great company. Always so positive and unflappable, never letting her illness interfere with her positive, outgoing and interested attitude in what she wanted to do. It was a privilege to know her. Katy Bayless*

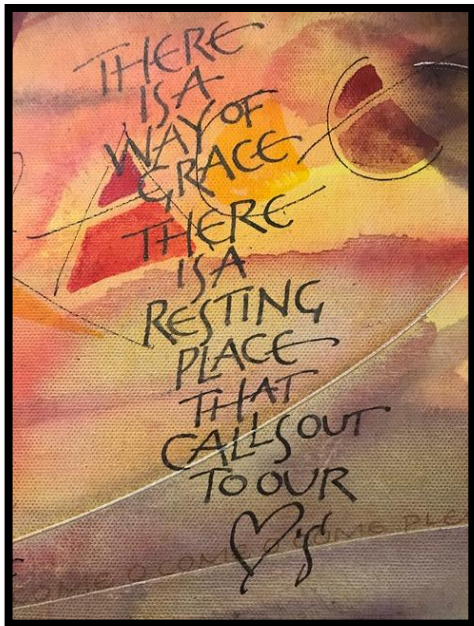
*I did not have the pleasure of a longtime friendship with Chris but began to know her in more recent years. I learned how she was full of entertaining stories of her travels and love for Estonia and her family members. Her interest and enthusiasm for Calligraphy came through in many ways during meetings, classes and workshops and in presenting her creative ideas. During her journey with cancer I admired her courage and willingness to bring us along through her many informative emails in which she shared many of her beautiful photographs from her photography classes. It seemed she was always pursuing an interest. I will miss her brave determined spirit that lit her pathway. Barbara Taylor*



Above: With her family in Estonia

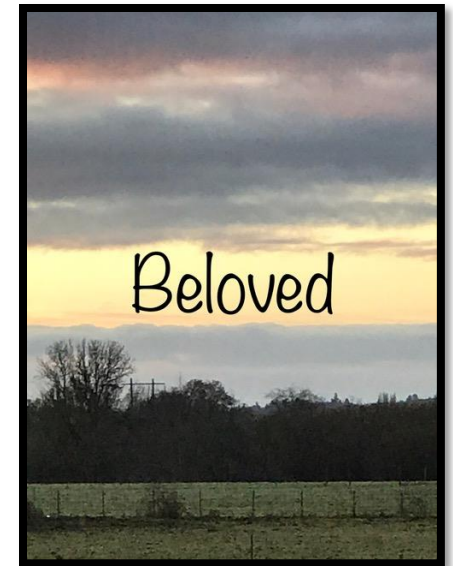


Right: At the *Seattleletters* conference holding a drawing of herself by fellow artist, Dewey Henderson.

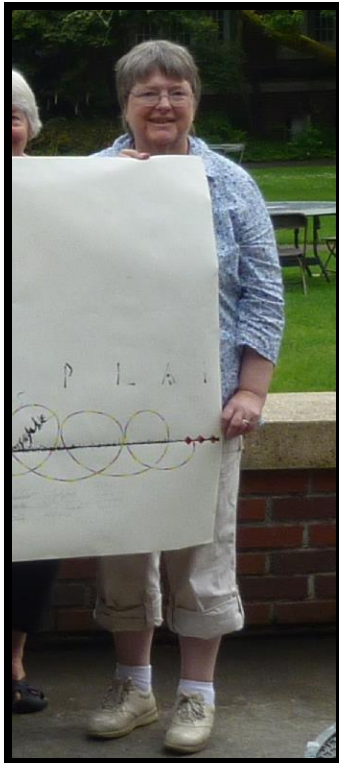


Left: *This is a detail of a piece I did for Advent for my church. The words are from one of my husband's songs. It comforts me that Chris is in that "place of rest" that she knew was ahead. Prindi Flug*

Right: *I took this shot in the early morning right by my house. It contains an essence of the peace that Chris now knows. She will be missed. Prindi*

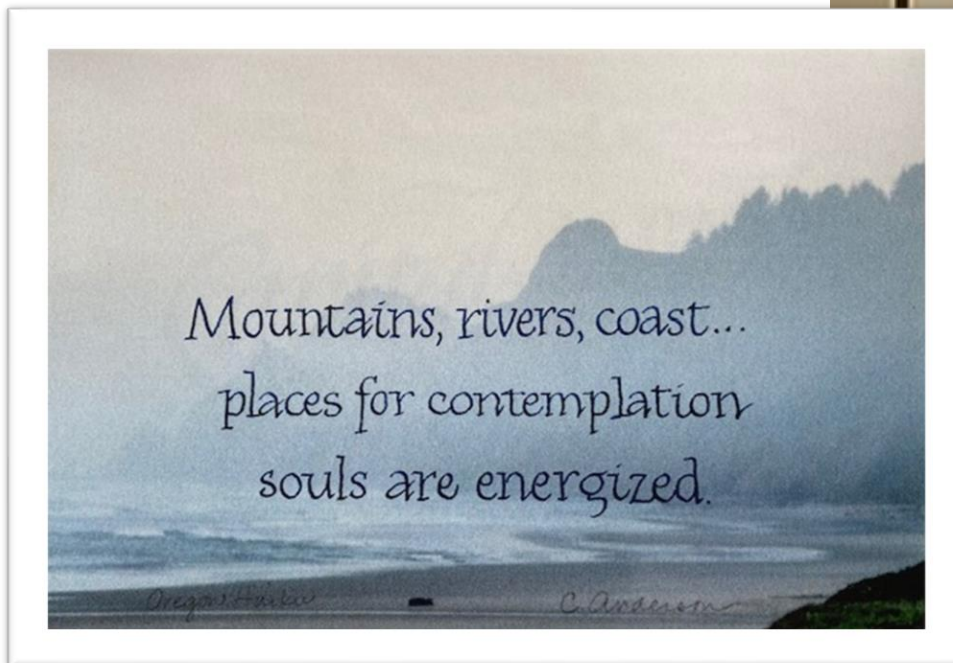
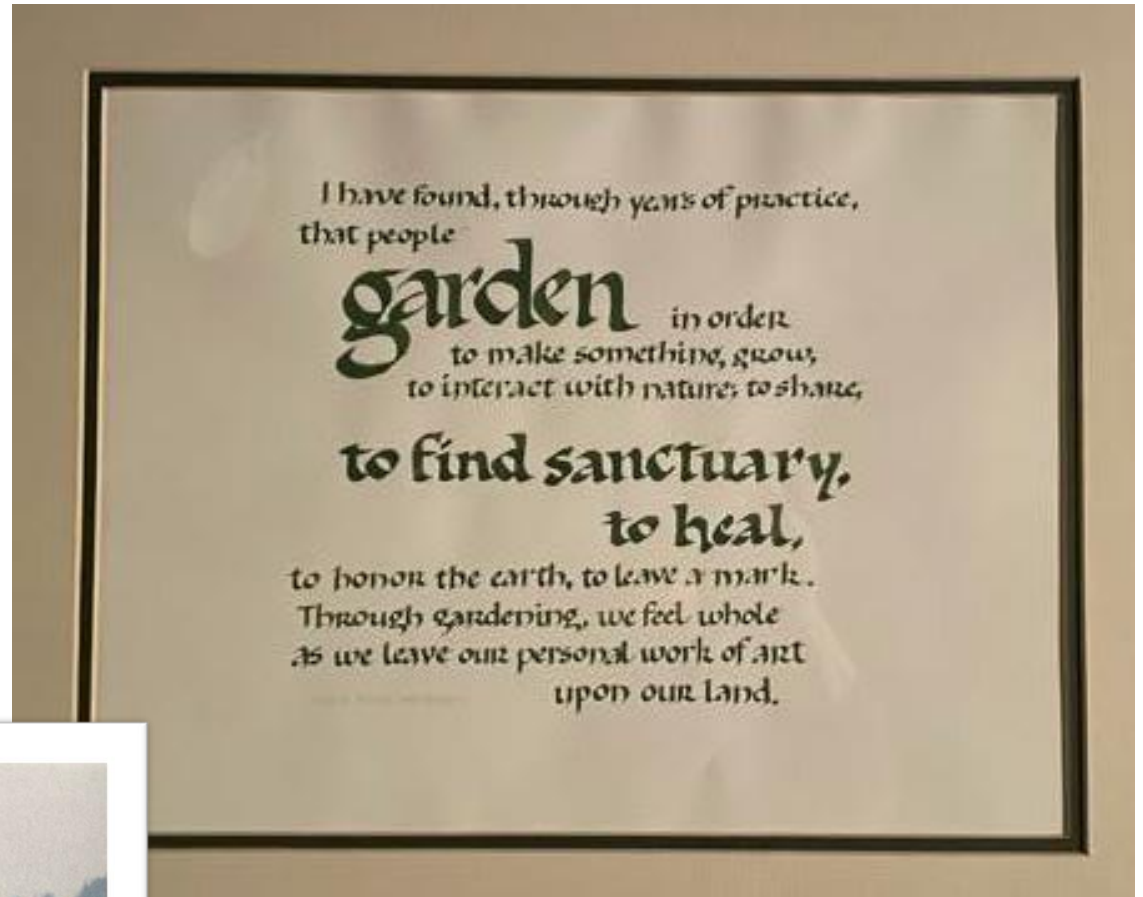


Below: Pictured with her classmates at the 2012 International Calligraphy Conference in Portland, Oregon.



Right: Chris created this piece of art that hangs above her fireplace. The words of the quote resonate as being quite meaningful to her.

Below: In 2017, the Capital Calligraphers celebrated our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A commemorative book of quotes about Oregon was created. Chris's piece combining her photography and lettering became the cover page.

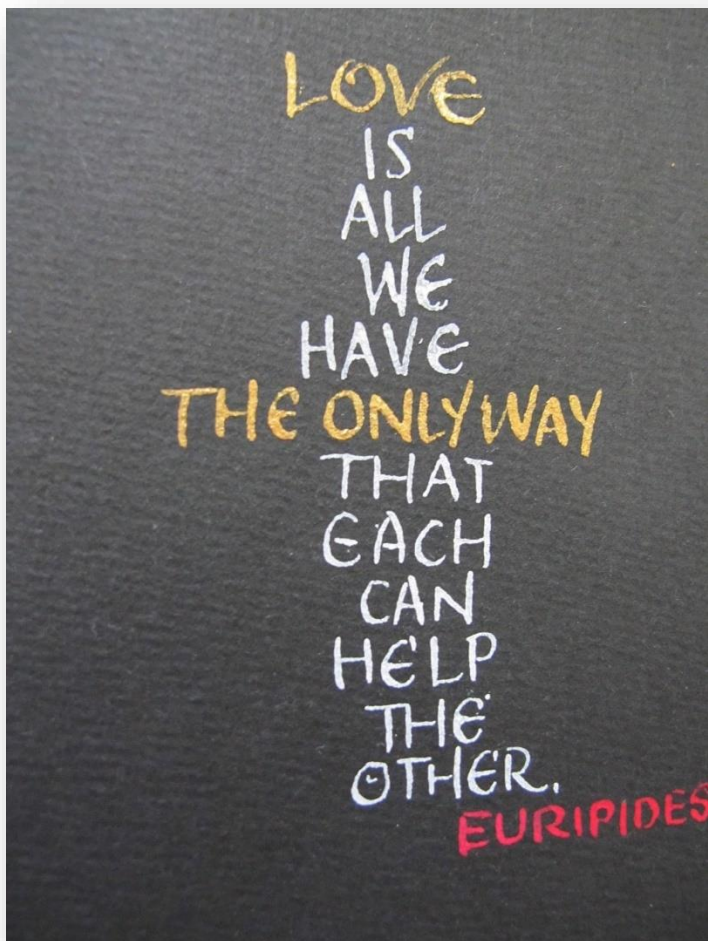


A LIGHT in a shady world.

She was such an inspiration to me.

Always positive regardless of the situation...

And the grace in how she handled her illness. ... Kathleen O'Hara



Right: Created by Jessie McCandlish in memory of Christine.

*True friends will leave footprints in your heart.* Eleanor Roosevelt

Left: Lettered by Chris, words to live by.

*One thing I learned early in my friendship with Chris - her mother named her "Christine" and really thought she should be addressed by her full name and didn't like it being shortened!*

*She was such a kind and hospitable person. I stayed with her several times when I took classes at Sitka and always had a very enjoyable time with her and her husband, Andy. And if Andy wasn't there we would go and try various restaurants because who wants to cook and/or wash dishes after taking a class? I so wish she was still with us - we have lost a really good and kind and talented friend and fellow*



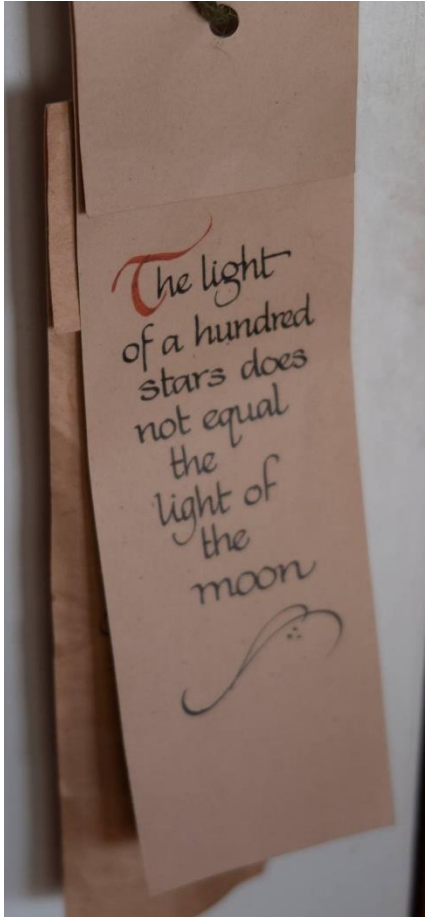
calligrapher. Penny White

*Although I had heard her name for years, I never met Chris in person. But I did get a chance to know her a bit because she joined the Zoom meetings of our little group of calligraphers, gatherings that wouldn't have happened without the pandemic. Her upbeat personality and courage were an inspiration.* Susan Wickes

Right: Finding a little rest at the 2012 International Calligraphy Conference in Portland. We, who have attended the conferences, can relate!



Below: Weathergram written by Chris.



*Chris and I were not only interested in the lettering arts, but were related by ill health. We would talk via phone often and commiserate about how we were feeling, good or bad. Chris was rarely down-hearted, although she surely could have been. If I didn't call for a few days, she'd call and check in to make sure I was doing alright. Her kindness touched everything in her life and she was a generous listener. In the calligraphy guild, she was always helpful with the new people, encouraging and making them feel welcome and valued. We attended the 2012 calligraphy conference together, as pictured. There's a poem that goes something like this:*

*Friends for a reason, friends for a season, friends for a lifetime. Chris was a friend for a lifetime. I'll miss her. Sandi Cormier*

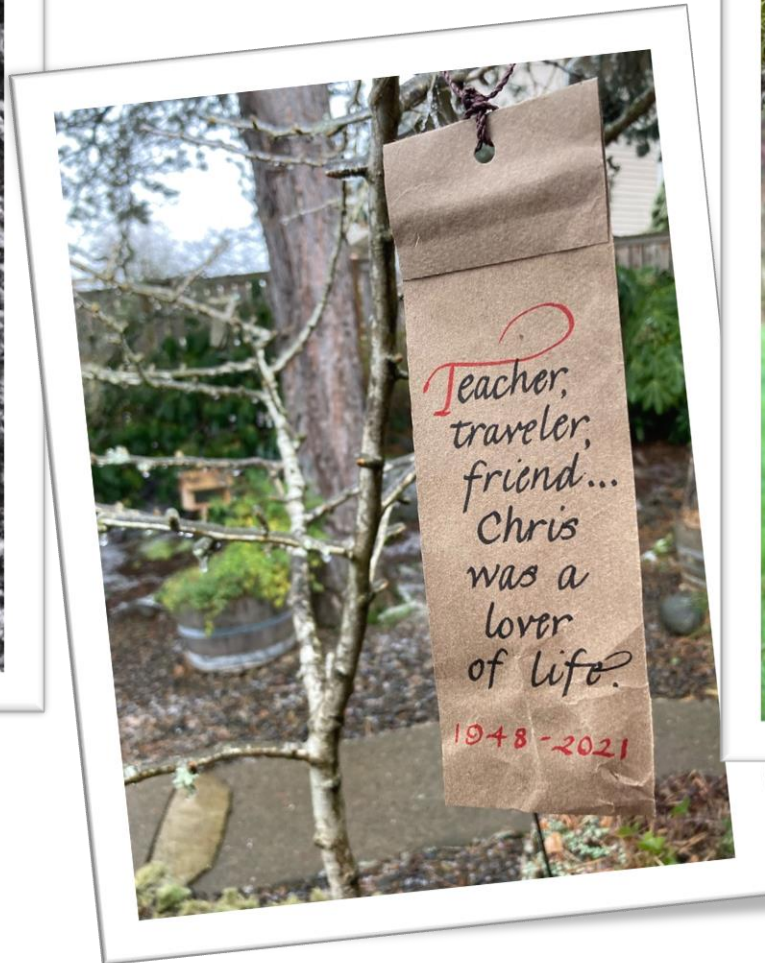
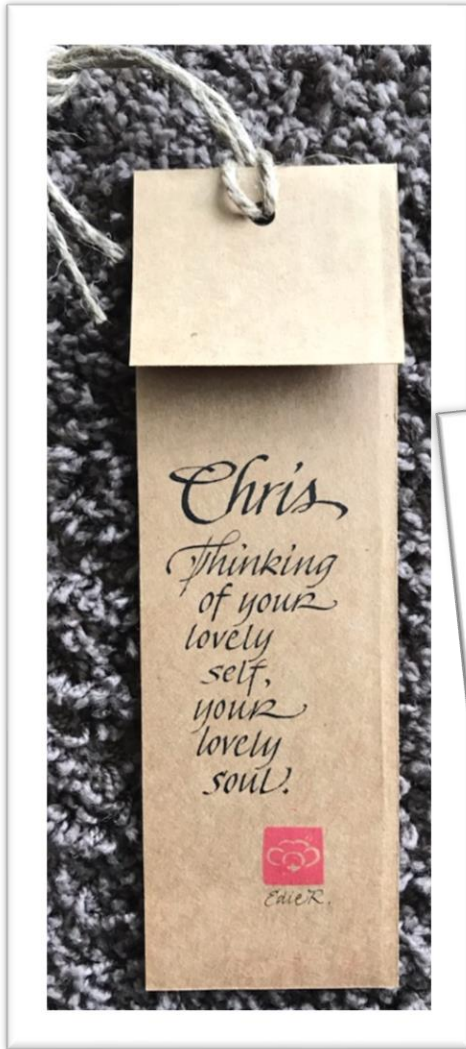


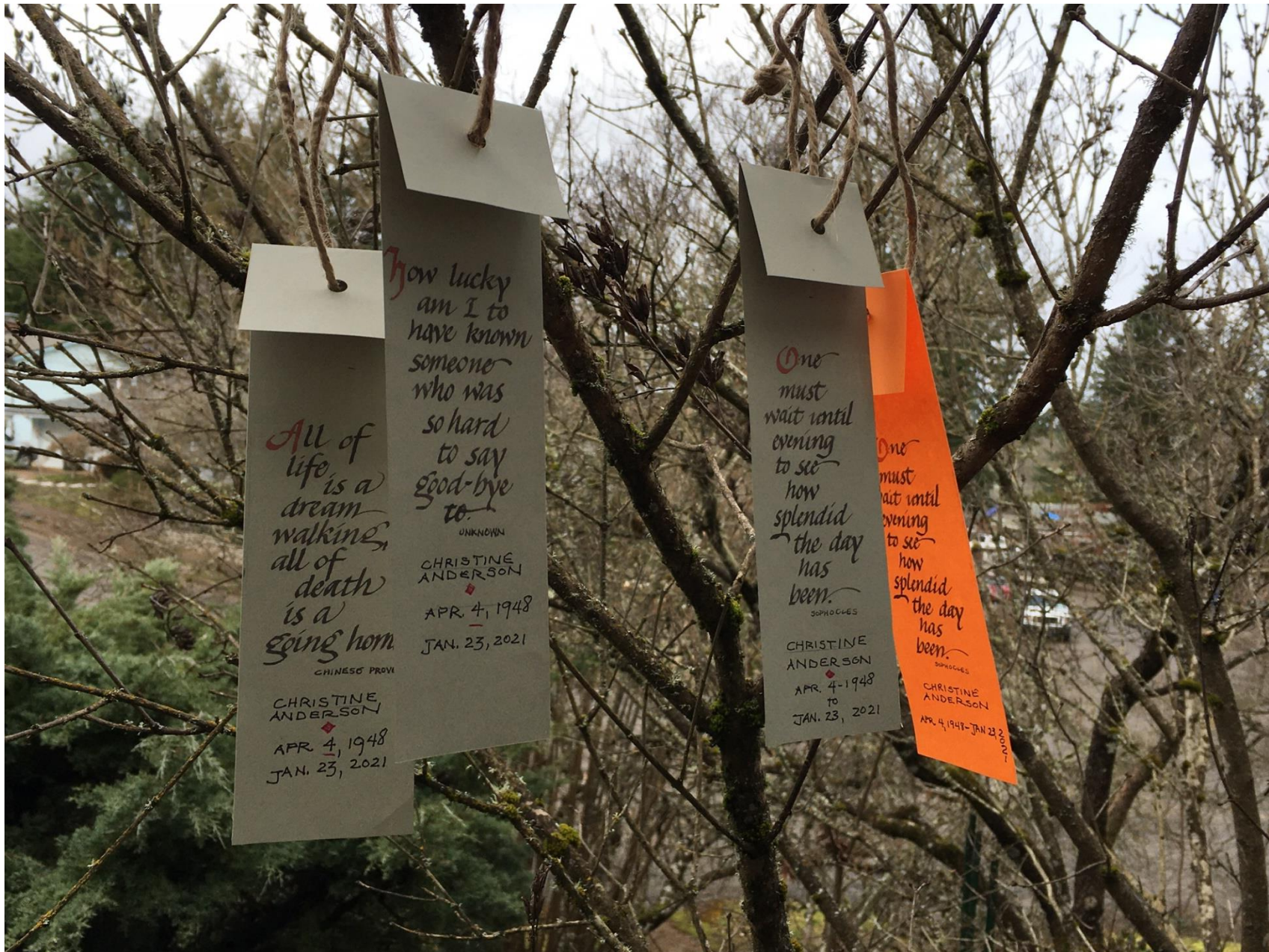
Right: At the 2018 Oregon State Fair, demonstrating and writing names for fairgoers. Chris created lovely tokens for children and adults to take home and treasure.



Below are weathergrams lettered by fellow artists and hung in their own gardens to weather in the rain and wind. The ultimate 'home' for a weathergram is to disintegrate and be carried by a bird to 'feather' their nest.

1. Edie Roberts, 2. Trish Hibler, 3. Laura Drager





And so, dear friend, I'll finish this tribute with a few thoughts to send you on your way. Many before me have said similar thoughts to what I feel and I echo their words – kind, generous listener, loving teacher, wise, spiritual, giving of self, long suffering, positive energy, and a good friend to all. You always amazed us as you went through your tribulations with health and loss, never losing sight of the goodness in life, and providing an example to inspire. Thank you for being in our lives as a shining beacon, always striving to better our world. May God bless you and keep you. I know He has brought you peace and you're with your beloved Andy and family. Here's to your life, well spent! Laura Drager

