



Charlie McGuire, 1941-2008

With great sadness we share with you the news that our beloved founder, Charlie McGuire, transitioned from this life into the light early this morning May 15, 2008. She faced her long illness with grace and determination, surrounded by many beloved people and companion creatures.

Charlie founded AHNA after a career in nursing and work with a for-profit hospital company. Realizing that something was missing from her life, and disappointed with conventional healthcare, she sent out a call to fellow nurses. Seventy-six nurses came together in 1981 to found AHNA - now a professional association with 4,000 members in the US and abroad. Charlie's vision was that all nurses would be holistic nurses, and her dream is becoming reality.

Charlie dedicated her life to empowerment, women's self-healing, counseling, story-telling and transformation. After founding AHNA in 1981, and serving as its President for five years, Charlie McGuire co-founded the Southwest Institute for Women in 1990 and then co-founded the Buffalo Woman Ranch in 1999, home to her work in Equine Experiential Facilitating.

Jeannie Crawford, Executive Director of AHNA said that, "In addition to her outstanding professional contributions, Charlie played with us, danced with us, advised us and most importantly loved us. To say that she will be missed does not begin to plumb the depth of our loss. On the other hand we know that she is still with us giving us transformative loving and caring."

We are creating *A Celebration of Charlie* page on our Web site. If you would like to share your thoughts of Charlie, please email publicrelations@ahna.org.

