

The Story of Jill

We are a small fiber arts group in Missouri. This story is about our friend, Jill, and why we would like to honor her memory.

The mission of our group, Ozark Fiber Fling, is the education and promotion of the fiber arts, including (but not limited to) spinning, weaving, knitting crocheting, and dyeing. Every November we host a two-day event with classes from sheep shearing and wool processing to making finished products with natural materials. Jill attended in 2015 and was an avid and eager student. She took classes in spinning and beading, but her true joy was dyeing fiber for use. She found joy in dyeing beautiful colors for use in finished products. Each year she took more classes, and she began to collect fiber and equipment to follow her passion on a professional level.

Jill seemed to have a real zeal for her newly found interest. So, we were shocked in March of 2016, when her mother contacted our group to say that Jill had taken her own life. Her mother said she had Jill's equipment and supplies and no idea what she should do with them. Several members of our group met with her mother. We were able to sell some equipment outright for her. There were dyed fibers that we sold throughout the following years. We want to donate a portion of the sales to a group that might be able to help the next "Jill".

We did not see; we did not know of her inner struggles. We were unable to help. We will always be sorry. But we want to do what we can in her memory to make a difference. Please accept this check in her memory. We hope you can see the vibrant colors of her passion as well as her struggles.

With respect for all you do,

Ozark Fiber Fling