



Patricia Ann "Patty" Miller

October 21, 2021

MILLER, Patricia Ann "Patty," 73, a longtime Knoxville resident, passed away on October 21, 2021, after a brief illness. She was preceded in death by her parents, Charlotte and Theodore Miller, brother-in-law, Andy Schwartz, and grandparents Thomas and Katherine McGuire. She is survived by her siblings Tom (Susan) Miller, Elaine "Bunkie" Miller, and Charlie (Anabelle) Miller; her beloved nieces and nephews, Kerry (Kris), Danny (Meg), Kevin (fiancée, Stacey), Charlotte (Peter), Allie, Sean-Miguel, Gabi; and her much doted-upon great-nephews Rory, Monty, and Kieran. She will also be greatly missed by her cousins of the extended McGuire-Kennedy family, including the Gibneys and Howells of Knoxville, who provided immeasurable support during her illness, as well as an amazing circle of friends. Patty's life truly exemplified what it means to be a true friend, and she enriched the lives of many with her friendship. Born in Jackson Heights, Queens, Patty spent her formative years in Minneapolis and earned a bachelor's degree from Dunbarton College of the Holy Cross in Washington, D.C., before returning to her family's roots in Knoxville. After earning a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Tennessee, "Ms. Pat" devoted her career to teaching visually impaired students in the Knoxville/Knox County Schools, where she continued to volunteer after her retirement. Patty cherished her annual pilgrimages to the Smoky Mountains in Gatlinburg, spending holidays with friends and family in Northern Virginia, and delighting others with batches of her famous "Patty Cookies." Although she generally avoided being in front of the lens, Patty was the family documentarian and memory-keeper, and could usually be found with a camcorder or disposable camera in hand. While she treasured the Catholic faith of her upbringing, she was an active member of Cokesbury United Methodist Church in Knoxville. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Susannah's House and Ladies of Charity, Knoxville. When you see a beautiful sunset, please toast Patty with a glass of wine and a heart full of gratitude for a life well lived. Internment at Calvary Cemetery on November 6, 2021, at 10:30 a.m. with Fr. Chris Michelson and Rev. Charles Maynard officiating. Online Condolences may be extended at <http://www.rosefuneraltn.com>

Events

NOV **Graveside Service** 10:30AM

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Calvary Cemetery

2000 Martin Luther King Blvd., Knoxville, TN, US

Comments



“ I have known Pat for many years. She came twice a year to Gatlinburg. We shared so many wonderful times here. She was such a special lady. Always thinking of other people. I will miss her so so much. I will never forget her. She will be in my heart forever. Love to her family
carol Capooth

Carol Capooth - November 09, 2021 at 09:30 PM



“ I worked with Pat in several different schools over many years. Her love for her job and students was always evident. After retirement, we often ran into each other at the local Kroger store. We would share conversations about mutual friends. She was definitely a very special person. I will miss seeing and chatting with her.

Raymond Cruze - November 06, 2021 at 09:58 AM



“ I was honored to work with Ms. Pat at SMG for several years in the 1990's. We didn't see each other for about 4 years until I moved to Dogwood Elementary. I was so happy to see a familiar face! After she retired, she volunteered in my class once a week, letting the children read to her, chaperoning field trips & helping with class parties. We shared so many laughs together that I will treasure. It was obvious that she loved her family, her trips and all the kids she worked with. We lost our Angel on earth and she will be truly missed.

Angie Lamon - November 05, 2021 at 08:01 PM



“ Joan Martin lit a candle in memory of Patricia Ann "Patty" Miller



Joan Martin - November 03, 2021 at 03:05 PM



“ I met Patty Miller many years ago when we were both college students (I attended another college). She was a good friend of my future wife Teresa and on occasion Teresa and I would go on double dates with Patty and her date (once with my best friend). Her red hair and spritely nature, along with her easy, innocent laugh made her a pleasure to be with. Even then, she never had an unkind word for anyone. Patty wasn't blind to the meanness of the world, it just didn't dominate her. I lost touch with her for many years as our orbits didn't overlap. I knew that she had eventually moved to Knoxville and was working as a teacher. When Patty started visiting her brother Tom and Susan here in northern Virginia we all had the chance to reconnect at Christmas and sometimes other holidays. These were right merry times with the joy of the holidays and the chance to catch up and gab about the past as well as all the things we were doing. Through it all ran the common thread of Patty's sweetness and kindness for others. I could tease Patty and not make her angry, and she would blush and laugh at my corny, sometimes off color jokes, and she loved to play dominoes. She had an unlimited fund of stories about the doings of her extended family, as well as stories about her beloved Gatlinburg, Tennessee. She never failed to inquire after our family and how our children were getting on. It was on a later trip to Gatlinburg with close friends that Teresa and I introduced Patty to a group of our friends, a group we later christened the Pilgrims (from Chaucers Canterbury Tales). Our friends fell in love with Patty. Patty gave us the golden gloves tour of Gatlinburg, its best places to eat, places it was the most beautiful in the various seasons of the year, and some of her special friends. Patty gravitated towards people who were hard workers and had seen the less glamorous side of what life had to offer, but she never judged. We met several very nice people through Patty, one of whom I still maintain contact with. After meeting the Pilgrims in Gatlinburg she would share Christmas with us in Northern Virginia every year and whenever she was able at other times. She was such a good fit and everyone looked forward to her visits. In some ways her visits were like “a Prairie Home Companion” as she unfolded her stories of family and what was going on in Knoxville and Gatlinburg. She wasn't blind to politics, but she didn't let Politics or people with contrary views stand in her way of being their friend. The internet and text messages became another medium for her to share articles, information about family and friends, and homilies from her beloved church. Patty was surrounded with a strong sense of faith, and her church was an important part of her life, as were the children she had served in her working career. Patty also loved to send cards and she had a remarkable memory for the important dates in other peoples' lives. We will miss Patty; the brevity of the time we had to know and love her makes all the more pronounced our loss of her crystal spirit. We hold the future in faith, but we must trust to the present our joy of having known and loved Patty.



“ Miss Miller was a special spunky woman. I was her favorite bank teller. We shared some good conversations about different parts of life. I'm saddened to know that she has received her wings. I know she is rejoicing..... I do know that she loved her family.... neices and nephews. She talked about family gatherings a lot. I MISS YOU!!

Kathy Ellis - November 01, 2021 at 12:55 PM



“ Pat was a very sweet and caring person. I worked with Pat for many years at South-Doyle High School. My thoughts and prayers are with family and friends during this difficult time.

Sue Jones

Sue - November 01, 2021 at 11:55 AM