



## Catharine V. Christensen

June 6, 1921 - February 11, 2013

Catharine Veronica (Cronin) Christensen, 91, of Farmington and formerly a longtime resident of West Hartford, died peacefully with her family at her side on Monday (February 11, 2013) at St Mary Home, West Hartford. She was born in Philadelphia, PA to the late John Walter Cronin and Catherine Veronica (McCloskey) Cronin on June 6, 1921. She was predeceased by her loving husband of 62 years, Clifford (Chris) Quentin Christensen and her dearly beloved son, Michael Christensen. Catharine attended John W. Hallahan Catholic Girls High School in Philadelphia. She graduated February, 1943 from the training school for nurses at "Old Blockley" Philadelphia General Hospital. During World War II, she met Chris, a Second Lieutenant in the Army, stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. They were married at Fort Sill Post Chapel on November 4, 1943. When her husband was deployed to the South Pacific with the 694th Field Artillery, Catharine went back to Philadelphia to work at the Pennsylvania Institute Psychiatric Hospital. After the war ended, Catharine and Chris were reunited and came to Hartford for a brief time. Catharine took a nursing job at St. Francis Hospital while Chris attended school for his new job with the Aetna. The Aetna relocated them to Dallas, TX where Catharine worked at The Methodist Hospital. When they were transferred in 1950 to Des Moines, Iowa, Catharine volunteered at the Christ Child Home orphanage and was a member of the Des Moines Women's Club. Upon leaving Des Moines, they spent the next 5 years in Buffalo, NY before finally settling in West Hartford in 1956 where they lived for more than 50

years. Catharine remained active by continuing her nursing career and caring for her three sons. Her community involvement included Treasurer of The Hartford Symphony, Auxiliary President of the West Hartford Republican Women's Club, Secretary of the West Hartford Republican Town Committee, and Chairman of the World Affairs Committee of The West Hartford League of Women Voters. She was a member of the Beatrice Fox Auerbach World Affairs Roundtable and was a member of the West Hartford Community Health Planning Board. Some of her favorite pastimes included tennis, downhill skiing, bridge and scrabble.

Catharine leaves her two children, Mark E. Christensen and his wife Kathleen of Bolton, and Robert Christensen and his wife Sara Ecker of Thetford Center, VT; four grandchildren, Mark Christensen, Shane Christensen and his wife Meaghan, Ashley Andrews and her husband Blake, Ty Christensen, and Kait Christensen and two great-grandchildren, Keeleigh and Cody Christensen. She also leaves her sister, Mary Louise Schlachta of Phoenixville, PA, her brothers, Jim Cronin and his wife Gerri of Doylestown, PA, Joe Cronin and his wife Betty of North Wales, PA, Bill Cronin of Orchard Beach, ME, Tom Cronin and his wife Bobbie of Bluffton, SC and Paul Cronin of Mission Viejo, CA and many nieces and nephews and their families.

Besides her husband and son, Catharine was predeceased by her brother, Jack Cronin and his wife Catherine, her sisters, Peggy Ruddy, Nancy Wald and Joan Cronin, her aunts, Margaret Cronin, Marie Cronin and Sister Mary Protase, IHM, her brother-in-law Frank Schlachta, her nephew, Eric Schlachta and her niece, Joanne Schlachta. Friends and family may call Friday from 4-7 p.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave. West Hartford, CT. Graveside services will be Saturday, February 16, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, 1 Cottage Grove Rd. Bloomfield, CT. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the American Lung Association, 45 Ash St. East Hartford, CT 06108.



# Cemetery Details

## Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery

1 Cottage Grove Rd  
Bloomfield, CT

# Previous Events

## Visitation

FEB 15. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Ave  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Service

FEB 16. 10:00 AM (ET)

Graveside Mount St. Benedict Cemetery  
1 Cottage Grove Rd  
Bloomfield, CT

# Tribute Wall

BC

“ *What a terrific lady...I don't think that I'm wrong although it has been MANY years ago I worked w/ her @ St Mary Home...she was a breath of fresh air and we shared many laughs! I will not forget her spirit and hope I will someday be remembered for the same... God bless all of you, your loss is BIG!! My prayers! Barbara Clemens, RN*

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**Barbara Clemens** - March 08, 2013 at 11:23 PM

AD

“ *1 file added to the album Mrs.Christensen*



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**Allison DeLong** - February 15, 2013 at 11:44 AM

AD

“ *3 files added to the album Mrs.Christensen*



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**Allison DeLong** - February 15, 2013 at 11:44 AM

AD

*Dear Aunt Kath, Uncle Mark, Ash, & Family - So sorry for your loss. We will always remember Christmas with Mrs. Christensen - aka Santa. She impressed us as a practical, no-nonsense nurse-type, but she was always quick to smile during these festive occasions. It is sad to lose another wonderful member of our grandparent generation. She will live on in the proud legacy of her amazing children and grandchildren. Rest in peace, Mrs. Christensen. Give Mr. Christensen a big hug up in heaven from all of us.*

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**Allison DeLong** - February 15, 2013 at 11:57 AM

SM

“ Dear Bob and family,

*I was so saddened to hear the news. I only have the fondest memories of "Mrs. C". Growing up on Fernwood Road, our two families were so close. Summers at Red Oak, winters at the Ski Club, many vacations, trips, and gatherings in between. Mrs. C was one of my mom's closest friends during my childhood, and Bobby was practically my 2nd brother. I am grateful that I got to see Mrs. C within the past year, when I was visiting my parents in Farmington. We took her to dinner and I remember being amazed at her vitality. May you be comforted by your memories of her, and know that she lived a full life.*

*Much love,  
Sue Mayo*

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**Sue Mayo** - February 14, 2013 at 04:56 PM