



Elsie Ghent Kelly

April 21, 1934 - January 2, 2013

KELLY. Elsie (Ghent)

Elsie (Ghent) Kelly, 78, of Farmington and formerly West Hartford and Amelia Island, FL, died Wednesday, January 2, 2013. Born in Hartford, the daughter of the late John and Elsie (Cotter) Ghent, she was raised in West Hartford, attending St. Thomas the Apostle School, Sedgwick Middle School, graduated from Hall High School, and received her Bachelor's degree from Centenary College in Hackettstown, NJ. She was the founder and president of The Options Group, a personnel agency which she operated for 18 years. Elsie was a strong advocate for women's rights and was the managing editor of Alert Newspaper. She served on many boards including St. Francis Hospital, The Greater Hartford Chamber of Commerce, Greater Hartford Urban league, Downtown Hartford Arts Council and the Hartford Club. She was a member of the Madison Beach Club, Wampanoag Country Club, Stratton Mountain Country Club, and The Ocean Club of Amelia Island Plantation. She was a generous woman with a great sense of humor. She loved life, laughter, music, and her friends and family, especially her children. She will be missed by all who knew and loved her, but her bright spirit will continue in all those whose lives she touched. She is survived by her three children, Laura Kelly and her fiancé, Alben Puhlick of Farmington, Philip Kelly and his wife Deana of Florida, Maria Kelly and her husband George McKinley of Oregon; five grandchildren, Jacqueline, Julia, Charlotte, James, and Camille; her dearest friend Dawn Roberts; her cousin Doris Frey and numerous nieces and

nephews. The funeral will be Thursday at 10:00 a.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 872 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Calling hours are Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. at the Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

JAN **9**. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

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

Service

JAN **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Thomas the Apostle Church
872 Farmington Ave.
West Hartford, CT 06119
(860) 233-8269

Tribute Wall

BM

“ Hello Dawn Roberts and Elsie's family
Elsie was a mega mega mentor to me in Farmington when I was very young and inexperienced -0- she is a stand out in my mind!!
Elsie: go girl!! go Girl - you were bigtger than life to me -- I live and work in Manhattan today -- Elsie: i am living working all of your lessons -- you and Dawn and Eileen Kraus and so many others that made me what I am today!! I loe you Elsie Kelley!!
bonniemanter@tmo.blackberry.net
917-327-4744
Bonnie Manter

Bonnie Manter - March 16, 2014 at 05:00 PM

AK

“ Phil and Deana,
I'm so sorry for your loss. What a wonderful gift to your mother that she had you here with her on Amelia Island for these years. You could always see how much the children meant to her. Her spirit lives on through all of them.
Alice Krysiak

Alice Krysiak - January 15, 2013 at 11:29 PM

GM

“ To the children and family of Elsie, I wish to say how sorry I was to hear of her recent death. My name is Glenda Cotter Miller and when I was young I would stay with the three aunts overnight and they would make your mother take me with her and her friends everywhere. She was great! Unfortunatly we hadn't seen each other for probably 50years as I went to school in Boston,married and had five children. Again I am sorry for your loss.
Glenda Miller

Glenda Miller - January 13, 2013 at 04:55 PM

DW

“ *Phil, and the rest of the Kelly Family,*

We are very sorry to hear of the recent loss of your mother. She was a very sweet lady in every aspect. We will keep you and your mom in our prayers. Please hug Deana and the kids for us; we miss you all.

Dawn, Mark, Vanessa, and Victoria Welliver

Dawn Welliver - January 10, 2013 at 10:32 AM

MH

“ *Years ago Elsie Kelly and Dawn Roberts hired me to work as a temporary for their Options Unlimited agency. I was able to find many jobs to help our young family. They placed a great deal of trust in me to staff their satellite office in Simsbury. We lost touch as the years passed but not my admiration and gratitude for these fine women. They were truly years ahead of their time. I won't be able to attend Elsie's funeral but want to extend my sincere sympathy to everyone.*

Mary Hendrickson - January 09, 2013 at 08:30 PM

DD

“ *I was sorry to hear of Elsie's passing. We used to walk home from school together and I have many good memories of the times we shared. With deepest sympathy,*
Don DeBella

Donald DeBella - January 09, 2013 at 08:32 AM



“ Dear Laura and Family,

I was sad to hear of your Mom's passing, but couldn't help but remember her graceful presence and smile. She was beautiful and strong.

Seeing her in the every day sense, as we grew up, she was funny and strong willed, with a twinkle in her eye and an obvious love for her family.

I am glad to have known her briefly and remember her fondly.

Sincerely,

Joyce Hogan Concord, MA

starfish11 - January 08, 2013 at 06:38 PM



“ *Elsie was a generous mentor and a true pioneer for women like myself who were trying to forge a place as business owners. She blazed the trail and never stopped reaching back to the rest of us to help us along. I truly count her as one of the Founding Mothers of my business and I'm sad others won't get the benefit of her wisdom and sense of humor. Thank you, Elsie!*

Andrea Obston - January 08, 2013 at 06:17 PM



“ *To Elsie's family and Dawn, my sincerest condolences on your loss. She was a colleague that I treasured and a friend who always made me laugh. She will be sorely missed. May she watch over you all.*
Ann Farley

Ann farley - January 08, 2013 at 06:01 PM

RN

“ On behalf of the Hall High Class of 1952 our sincere sympathies on your loss. Looking back at our year book, Elsie had a nick name of "Torchie" and It says "Where ever laughter is, Elsie is there. The kind of sport you like to meet any where." She will be missed.

Roy Johnson Normen, Class of 52

Roiy Johnson Normen - January 08, 2013 at 04:49 PM

JB

“ Joseph & Jennifer Basile lit a candle in memory of Elsie Ghent Kelly



Joseph & Jennifer Basile - January 08, 2013 at 11:20 AM

JB

“ To Phil, Deana, Julia, Charlotte, Jamie and Camille ~ and ALL of the Kelly Family

Joey and I are TRULY sorry for the loss of Elsie. We know how special she was to all of you & we hope that you find comfort in all the beautiful memories you have shared together. We will be thinking of all of you during this difficult time and will keep Elsie in our thoughts and prayers always. I know she will be missed by many- sending all of our love to you. Our deepest sympathies, Joey & Jen Basile

Joseph & Jennifer Basile - January 08, 2013 at 11:19 AM

JC

“ Phil, Deana, children and all the Kelly Family, May God place his loving hands on your shoulders, to guide you in strength and love through this most difficult time. It is never easy to lose one that we love throughout our life. A mother is a cherished gift only God has the power to bless us with. Phil and Deana, you gave Elsie the greatest gift a mother can ever receive. Her eyes shone as she watched the children, her love for you and the children was immeasurable. As you look up to the heavens, know that she is at home now with the Lord, looking down with loving eyes for her children who loved her unconditionally. May God Bless you in his love,
Joyce



Joyce Cmielewski - January 08, 2013 at 08:51 AM



“ Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Elsie Ghent Kelly.



January 07, 2013 at 11:09 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Elsie Ghent Kelly.



January 07, 2013 at 11:00 AM

NW

“ Dear Laura,
My sincerely sympathy on the passing of your mom. What a gorgeous picture and loving tribute to her in the newspaper. She was an accomplished woman who clearly gave back to her community. May she now rest in peace.
You are in our thoughts and prayers at The Gables.
Noreen Washburn

Noreen Washburn - January 07, 2013 at 09:51 AM

MC

“ Marianne Crowley lit a candle in memory of
Elsie Ghent Kelly



Marianne Crowley - January 06, 2013 at 07:10 PM

MC

Phil, I met Elsie through my mom (Bina) after mass one morning at St Michael's. She was full of life and energy, and shared many experiences with me from her successful career. She became a real professional mentor to me. A couple years later, you and Deana moved to the island and she was so anxious to introduce us. She was very proud of you. You, Deana and the kids shared so much love with Elsie. You brought such joy to her life. My prayers are with you.

Marianne Crowley - January 06, 2013 at 07:19 PM



“ Let It Snow was purchased for the family of Elsie
Ghent Kelly.



January 06, 2013 at 10:37 AM

JR

“ *My thoughts and prayers to Elsie's loved ones. Elsie was so warm and vivacious. I haven't seen her in years, but will always remember her incredible sense of humor and love for life. Blessings. Jody*

Jody Rowell - January 06, 2013 at 08:36 AM

CB

*Dear Dawn, Phil, Deana and Kelly family;
Elsie was such a wonderful spirit and will be fondly remembered and greatly missed! Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.
With much love,
Charlotte and Mike Bowling - Amelia Island, FL*

C. Bowling - January 09, 2013 at 02:46 PM

BD

*Dear Phil and the Kelly family:
Mary and I just heard of your loss. You have all our sympathy. We did not know your Mom well but we'll always remember her wonderful smile. She had full life...how fortunate you all have been to have had her with you for so long. All our prayers for your Mom and you all as well.
Brian and Mary Downey - Fernandina Beach, FL*

Brian E. Downey - January 09, 2013 at 05:18 PM