



## Ilene Hirsch Fernald

June 2, 2016

On June 2, 2016, Ilene Hirsch Fernald passed away peacefully surrounded by family. This day was also the 37th wedding anniversary with her beloved husband Chris. Ilene was born in Elizabeth, New Jersey, and was raised in Simsbury, Connecticut. She graduated from Simsbury High School, earned her Bachelor's Degree from Southern Connecticut State University and Master's Degree from Central Connecticut State University. Ilene had a great passion for teaching children. She spent 25 years teaching at West Middle School in Hartford, Connecticut. She loved all of her students and was always thinking of new ideas and projects she thought they would enjoy. Her students impacted her life as much as she influenced theirs. Ilene had a great love for dogs, the beach, restaurants, and would do anything for her family. Ilene is survived by husband Chris Fernald, daughter Katie Kane and her husband Michael, daughter Kellie Fernald and her fiancé Tom Hickey, daughter Kimberly Merrill and her husband Scott, mother Linda Hirsch, sister Margie Bidwell and her husband Bruce, sister Patti Richardson and her husband Dave, nieces Anna Bidwell and Brooke and Lexy Richardson, and her three grandchildren Connor and Jack Kane and Allison Merrill. Ilene is predeceased by her father Howard Hirsch and beloved dog Willy. Donations can be made to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. To donate, call 1-800-628-0028 or visit [www.asPCA.org](http://www.asPCA.org). A service will be held at Molloy Funeral Home on Sunday, June 5th at 10:00 am located at 906 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, Connecticut. Shiva services will be held at 4 Reed

Road, Union, CT 06076 on June 5th from 1:00-5:00 pm and June 6th from 10:00-4:00 pm and at 63 Whispering Pines Rd, Avon, CT 06001 on June 7th from 6:00-9:00 pm.

# Previous Events

## Service

JUN 5. 10:00 AM (ET)

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

# Tribute Wall

RS

“ I thought of Ms. Fernald today! Still my favorite teacher! I miss being able to see you on my visits home! Continue to RIP!

Renee Stainrod - November 12, 2024 at 04:53 PM

JN

“ Dear Lin, We just heard of the passing of Kelly from Joel Silvestro - We remember her at the Park Road Playhouse and at the shiva at your house for Howard. A wonderful person and will be missed. She was kind and considerate and made some great contributions to all. Love, Dave and Jerilyn Nagel

Jerilyn Nagel - August 13, 2016 at 09:42 AM

AZ

“ Today, while working at Summer School, the school Nurse recognized me and asked if I knew about Ilene, your being our 'host family' during the redistricting. . Sadly, I did not know about anything since I seem to have lost touch with all of you.

Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you all and I have so very many good and happy memories. I am still in shock and would love to get in touch with Chris and Lynne.

Love always,

amy zisa

amy zisa - July 27, 2016 at 01:08 PM

LG

“ I was so sad to hear of Ilene's passing. She was a wonderful room parent when her daughter Katie was in my classroom. Her children were curious, brilliant, talented and capable of anything. Much of that was due to the superb support she provided them. She was a great Mom. I wish to send Katie, Kelly, Kim, and Chris much love during this difficult time. My prayers are with you.

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**Lee Gluck** - June 14, 2016 at 09:01 AM

SH

“ I taught with Ilene at West Middle and know of Ilene's dedication and love of children. She really made a difference!

*She is now with the angels in heaven.*

*I am so sorry for her family's loss!*

*Sincerely,*

*Sandy Herzog*

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**Sandra Herzog** - June 07, 2016 at 11:38 AM

DD

“ Chris, so very sorry for your loss. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Debbie DeFronzo** - June 07, 2016 at 07:46 AM

TM

“Katie,  
We were so sorry to hear of the passing of your mother. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family at this time. We've shared a gift with the ASPCA in Ilene's name and memory.”  
The McAdams Family

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**Thea McAdams** - June 07, 2016 at 01:06 AM

MM

“Chris,  
  
We send our condolences to you and your daughters. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

*Mark Molloy (Hedberg Data Systems)*

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**Mark C Molloy** - June 06, 2016 at 09:11 AM



“Chris, best wishes to your entire family. You have all shown a devotion and love that is so admirable and inspiring.



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**Lisa Cormier** - June 06, 2016 at 08:17 AM



“ Unfortunately I didn't get to know Ilene. We only met a few times but after working with Chris these past years, I have learned a lot about his family. I have learned that he is a kind, caring and devoted husband, father and grandfather. He would do anything for his family as they would for him. This kind of family doesn't just happen, it can only be born from beautiful people. Stay strong together. My deepest sympathies.

Guy

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**Guy Sinatra** - June 06, 2016 at 07:47 AM



“ Katie please accept our sincere sympathies in the passing of your Mom!

*The D'Onofrio Family*

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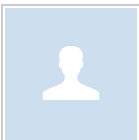
**corinne Donofrio** - June 04, 2016 at 11:16 AM



“ So sorry for you and your family Chris. In my thoughts and prayers.

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**Ellis Withington** - June 04, 2016 at 09:10 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Ilene Hirsch Fernald.



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June 04, 2016 at 08:58 AM

NB

“ *My condolences to you and to your family Chris. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family.*  
*Neil*

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**Neil Benoit** - June 04, 2016 at 08:35 AM

TO

“ *My condolences to you and your family. You'll be in my prayers.*  
*Todd Orr*

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**Todd Orr** - June 04, 2016 at 08:24 AM

JR

“ *To Chris and the family,*  
*I taught with Ilene at West Middle School. Her smile and dedication touched the lives of students and teachers. Praying for you and your family.* *Jackel Robinson*

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**Jackel Robinson** - June 04, 2016 at 07:48 AM



“ *So very sorry. Sending Chris and the family love and condolences.*  
*~Bill & Marsha Karp*

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**Marsha Karp** - June 04, 2016 at 07:15 AM

BB

“ *Kellie, so sorry to hear about the passing of your mom. Please accept my sympathy and prayers.* *Ms.B.*

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**Bonny A Butkiewicz** - June 04, 2016 at 06:26 AM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Ilene Hirsch Fernald.



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June 03, 2016 at 11:50 PM



“ *Cherished Memories* was purchased for the family of Ilene Hirsch Fernald.



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June 03, 2016 at 10:01 PM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray* was purchased for the family of Ilene Hirsch Fernald.



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June 03, 2016 at 07:47 PM



“ *A visit to the Elizabeth Park Rose Garden with my forever friend.*



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**Jess** - June 03, 2016 at 05:01 PM