



Judith S. Ragazzo

April 8, 2025

Judith (Judy) Ragazzo died on April 8 2025, age 85 at her home in West Hartford, the house that she grew up in and loved.

She was born in Hartford, CT on September 14, 1939 to the late Albert and Bessie Swem. Judy grew up in West Hartford, spending time in summer at the family beach cottage at Point O'Woods, Old Lyme, which her father and his brothers helped to build. She attended Hall High School.

Judy married in 1957 and her daughter Cynthia (Cindy) Ragazzo was born in 1957. The family moved to Boston, and her son Gregory (Greg) Ragazzo was born there in 1961. In 1970 Judy, divorced, and moved back to her West Hartford home with Cindy and Greg. As a single mom, Judy provided for her family by working at Aetna until 1989 when she retired. Judy stayed in touch with many of her Aetna friends for the rest of their lives, including Cecile Case, Joan Tyler and Hugh Hunter.

Judy loved to explore and travel, particularly in Scandinavia where her parents were from, England where her son settled, and to other European countries. She also enjoyed visiting Cindy and her family where they settled on the Central Coast, California. She was a keen skier, and having learnt to do so in New England, and loved doing so further afield including the Alps and Rockies.

In retirement, Judy continued to travel, including spending many Christmases with her 'English family' in London. She also enjoyed reading, cooking, watching sports and loved to spend time attending to her many house plants and garden - her daffodils were in joyful full bloom at the time of her death. She also enjoyed spending time each summer at the same family beach cottage that she had such happy memories of visiting as a child.

Judy absolutely loved dogs, and enjoyed dog sitting for her friends and neighbours, including Anne Painter, Sheila Jacobs and Bob Barrett in her later years. Lucy, Samson and Brewster were some of her favourite four-legged friends, but there were many more.

Judy is survived by her son Greg and daughter-in-law Sally Leever, and her son-in-law James Dean, and her grandchildren Loren, Eric and Janice Dean. She was predeceased by her daughter Cindy.

A celebration of Judy and her life will take place at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford, CT 06119 on Friday April 18, at 2pm, with a reception to follow. To attend services remotely please visit www.molloyfuneralhome.com for the zoom link. In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory may be made to the Connecticut Humane Society, an animal welfare organization <https://cthumane.org/ways-to-give/?form=memorialtribute>. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82604519184?pwd=G1jeVXJgsfl9MkMvURLWjy8vPm1oMZ.1>

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

APR 18. 2:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home
906 Farmington Avenue
West Hartford, CT 06119

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82604519184?pwd=G1jeVXJgsfI9MkMvURLWjy8vPm1oMZ.1>

Tribute Wall

HL

“ Hilary L. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith S. Ragazzo.

Hilary L. - April 23, 2025 at 05:03 PM

GC

“ Gustavo C. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith S. Ragazzo.

Gustavo C. - April 18, 2025 at 11:19 AM

MR

“ Mike and Rich purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Judith S. Ragazzo.



Mike and Rich - April 17, 2025 at 08:15 PM

MR

“ Mike and Rich planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith S. Ragazzo.

Mike and Rich - April 17, 2025 at 08:15 PM

SP

“ Sheila P. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judith S. Ragazzo.

Sheila P. - April 14, 2025 at 08:30 AM

SP

“ As the other half of Judy’s English family, James and I will miss having Judy as part of our lives. She was definitely feisty and a force to be reckoned with; her emails all in capitals were brief and to the point, somehow emblematic of her direct approach to life. We remain impressed by her determination to live the life she wanted to live; we also admired (with some trepidation!) her chainsaw work well into her eighties. We enjoyed our visits to West Hartford and Point of Woods, and we have very fond memories of her signature Italian dish and of course of Judy herself.

Sheila and James Pearce - April 13, 2025 at 01:21 PM

GR

*Thank you Shelia and James.
Sally & Greg*

Gregory Ragazzo - April 13, 2025 at 09:07 PM

JD

“ It was sad to hear of Judy's passing the other day when Greg and Sally contacted me. However, I find peace knowing that she was able to live life on her terms and spend her final days in her long time home.

I know that Judy found pleasure in simple things in her retirement years like gardening, pet sitting, dog walking, etc. She was always a good sport when she came to visit California and temporarily traded that quiet life for a week with a busy family of five. She always enjoyed her visits with us when she could get out here and seeing the kids at different ages as they grew..... but probably got back to her quiet home and took a well deserved nap upon her return. :)

*Peace be with Grandma Judy.....
James Dean and family*



James Dean - April 13, 2025 at 12:02 PM

GR

Thank you Jimmy, Sally and Greg

Gregory Ragazzo - April 13, 2025 at 12:32 PM

DL

“ We have loved being part of Judy's English family and enjoying her feisty independence, humour and deeply affectionate nature. We will miss the shared English Christ masses with her with her loved daughter-in-law Sally (who is my daughter) and my other daughter Hilary and my wife Valerie. David and Valerie Leevers

David and Valerie Leevers - April 13, 2025 at 11:04 AM

GR

*Thank you David and Valerie,
Sally and Greg*

Gregory Ragazzo - April 13, 2025 at 12:34 PM

MI

“ *I will certainly miss her childhood stories of Summers at Point O Woods. I always enjoyed helping her out with trimming her hedges when we got to visit. She lived a long incredible and inspiring life.*

Michael. - April 12, 2025 at 05:54 PM

GR

*Thank you Michael,
Sally & Greg*

Gregory Ragazzo - April 13, 2025 at 12:33 PM