



## Lyn Kovel

May 24, 1941 - January 20, 2004

Ellen ?Lyn? McGrath Kovel 62, died peacefully January 20, 2004 at her home in West Hartford. Born May 24, 1941, Lyn was the daughter of the late Virginia and Martin McGrath of East Windsor Hill, CT. As a young woman, she was an accomplished horsewoman, winning many blue ribbons at local shows. She graduated from the Walnut Hill School, Natick, MA. in 1960. She received her Bachelor of Arts Degree, in languages, from the University of Hartford and began her career teaching Spanish and French in the South Windsor school system. She continued her education at Capital Community College, graduating in 1984 with a degree in Nursing. She was especially proud of this, having accomplished it at the same time as raising her young family. Lyn had a rewarding career with the VNA Health Care as a Hospice nurse and was instrumental in the formation of the Palliative Care Unit at Hartford Hospital. She provided oversight in the initial training of the unit's nursing staff and was respected and admired by her fellow caregivers and patients alike. Lyn was also a member of the Junior League of Hartford and an avid and competent gardener, saving many friends' plants from extinction with her skills.

Lyn will be missed by her four children: Christianne Kovel and her husband, Tracy Helin, of Middletown; Katharine Kovel of Oakland, CA.; William Kovel and Nancy Dusseault, a special friend, of Medford, MA.; and James Kovel of West Hartford,. Lyn also leaves her sister, Jane Packer, of Madison, her brother and sister-in-law Martin and La Raine McGrath, of West Hartford, and

three beloved nephews: Martin McGrath IV, James Packer III, and David Packer. She will be deeply missed, especially by her faithful companion Claude, along with her family and countless friends.

A private burial will be held at the convenience of the family. A celebration of her life will be held on Saturday, January 24, 2004 at St. Timothy Church, 1116 N. Main Street, West Hartford at 10:30 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Lyn's name to the VNA Health Care Hope Team, 103 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT., 06105, or to the charity of your choice. For further information, directions or to share memories of Lyn with her family, please visit online at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com).

# Tribute Wall



“ To Lyn's children:

*I was very sorry to read of your mother's passing. I had seen her about a year ago and she told me that she was once again sick. She was so positive! I live on Timrod Road and had seen her in the neighborhood as I passed by several times. I had truly hoped that she would win her battle. She had so much to give and so much she told me she wanted to do.*

*Your mother was my mother's VNA Nurse from October, 1999 to her death in January, 2001. She provided both Palliative care and when it became necessary Hospice care to my mother.*

*My mother adored her. No matter how sick she was or how little she understood she always broke out into a huge smile when she would see Lyn.*

*Your mother was a god send to my mother, father and myself. When my mother unexpectedly took a turn for the worse I called you mother asking for any help she could provide in finding someone to take care of my mother at home. Lyn found me Joy Bent. Joy was the only ray of "joy" in my parent's house for 9 long months. We could never have been able to honor my mother's wishes without her and your mother.*

*Your mother came whenever we needed her and she continually fought Medicare so that she could provide the Hospice services my mother needed.*

*We knew for nine months that my mother was dying and that there was really no hope. Your mother's considerable support and kindness helped make the difficult time a little easier.*

*I will never forget her. As I drive by her house, many times a day, I will always remember how excited and pleased she was with it and the renovation. Please except my heartfelt condolences....I hope your memories will help sustain you through this difficult time.##imported-begin##Sue DeMartino##imported-end##*

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February 11, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ It was my pleasure to meet and know your mother, through our professional relationship. I am the Director of Nursing at Hughes Health & Rehab W. Hartford. Lyn brought VNA Hospice to our facility. Her commitment to patient care and humanity was second to none. She helped our staff with grief, not only with residents, but peers. Personally, she shared with me as I lost a very near and dear friend to cancer, last year she was 65. The last time I saw your mother was before the holidays at Hughes. I had the feeling it would be the last time. She said she was not well. I invited her to join us on any day, for a visit or even just to help out. It is with great sadness that I send you condolences, after reading your mother's obituary. However, I know she enjoyed you all, so much, in these last months because she said so. I lost my mother, in May, and I shared that with her, too. She was a great, dedicated nursing professional, and she made a difference in everyone's life that she touched. My sincere sympathy on your loss, and I am sorry I was not able to attend St. Timothy's, but it was my turn to work. God Bless -  
Nancy Tantalo-McGuire###imported-begin###Nancy Tantalo-McGuire###imported-end##

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January 25, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ With heartfelt condolences on the untimely death of our dear friend Lyn; we extend our love and sympathy to her children, sister and brother and other family members. We were fortunate to have been able to spend a wonderful afternoon with Lyn at the home of her brother Martin and his wife, LaRaine, on our recent visit to Hartford. May Lyn rest in peace.###imported-begin###Raenato & Anneke Patria###imported-end##

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January 24, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ You are all in my thoughts, and in my prayers.##imported-begin##Colette Kunkel##imported-end##

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January 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ As many, I will miss Lyn. She was the first friendly face I met my first day at the Hartford VNA. Then I had the pleasure of working with her in Hospice. I'm sorry I won't be able to attend her service, but she will be in my thoughts and prayers. Terry Duprey##imported-begin##Terry Duprey##imported-end##

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January 23, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ My thoughts and prayers are with you all.##imported-begin##Tammy Lambrou##imported-end##

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January 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ To Lyn's family - I express my sadness in Lyn's passing. She was one of the finest nurses that I have known. She will be missed by so many of her co-workers and friends- we all are better people and professionals for having been given the opportunity to work with Lyn. I regret that I will be unable to attend her memorial service but my thoughts and prayers will be with all of you.  
Gayle Gabrielli R.N.##imported-begin##Gayle Gabrielli##imported-end##

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January 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Bill my deepest condolences to you and your family. You are in my prayers.*##imported-begin##*Kate Giannetti*##imported-end##

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January 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM



“ *Christy and Tracy and Family, Please accept our sincerest sympathy, but Rejoice to the Lord, in knowing that she is in Peace. Love, Donna & Bill Helin*##imported-begin##*William & Donna Helin*##imported-end##

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January 22, 2004 at 12:00 AM