



Mary Jane Kuhn

July 1, 2022

Mary Jane Rowen Kuhn died on July 1, 2022 in Norwalk, CT where she had recently moved to be closer to family. Born July 15, 1935 in Springfield, MA, Jane – as she was known - grew up in Windsor, CT and was a longtime resident of West Hartford, CT. She was the daughter of the late George Anthony Rowen and the late Mary Ellen Leahy Rowen.

Jane was predeceased by her husband, Paul Alan Kuhn (whom she married in 1960) and her daughter, Mary Cathryn “Kate” Kuhn Woodbury, both of whom brought love, happiness, and adventure to Jane’s life. She is survived by her daughter, Julie Kuhn Macdonald and her husband, James of Westport, CT; her son, John Kuhn and his wife, Meg of Fairfield, CT; and son-in-law Derrick Woodbury of Bloomfield, CT. An exceptionally proud, adoring and involved grandmother (and recent great grandmother!), Jane leaves behind Carson and Rex Woodbury; Riley Macdonald and his wife Mary Elizabeth and their new sweet baby Philip James, Michaela Macdonald, Cara Macdonald and her fiancé, Sean Deery; and Kate, Declan and Charlotte Kuhn. Additionally, she is survived by Paul’s half-brothers, Bill and Martin Kuhn, both residents of Ontario, Canada, and their respective spouse/partner, Eva and Janet; and Bill’s son, Joe and his wife Janette and their two children, Lucy and Louis.

Jane attended Mount St. Joseph Academy in West Hartford, where she was

the Class of 1951 valedictorian. She was an extremely proud and active Wellesley College alumna (Class of 1955.) During her time there, Jane was a member of the Neumann Club and in the years after, she was an enthusiastic member and booster of the Hartford Wellesley Club.

After Wellesley, Jane worked at Connecticut General as one of the first women management trainees. She co-founded and built Hartford Plus Tours during the 1970's. While growing that business, Jane began guiding group trips to St. John, USVI which included her family for many years. St. John became one of her favorite places in the world, and Jane became a fixture at the Cinnamon Bay campground for over 30 years. From this base, she built a group tour business aligned with favored organizations such as Wellesley Alums, the Wadsworth Atheneum, St. Timothy's Church in West Hartford and the New Britain Museum. She enjoyed traveling with her groups across the globe, truly appreciating other cultures and traditions. Her destinations included Morocco, Kenya, Lebanon, Vietnam, Iceland, Venice, Vatican City and many more. Back at home, Jane worked at Kenny Travel, AAA Travel, and ultimately King Travel, planning her next adventures. She was also an active member of the Town & County Club in Hartford.

Jane and her family found peace and refuge in the home her parents built in West Halifax, VT. She loved the area and sharing it with friends and family. "Nene" made sure each grandchild knew the history of the Vermont house and the surrounding property. She loved taking them to visit the cows down the hill, visiting the family's gravel pits and swimming in the lake her parents aptly called Lake Jane.

Additionally, Jane was one of the founding members of the Kate Kuhn Woodbury, M.D Fun Run and Lecture Series, an annual charity event at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, where Kate was an anesthesiologist at the time of her death. In her later years, Jane enjoyed tennis, tap-dancing, and

painting. She loved attending grandchildren's numerous hockey, lacrosse and soccer games, ice skating competitions and musicals. She regularly showered her cat, Midnight, with hugs and treats, and loved to hide chocolate in her home so that her children and grandchildren wouldn't steal it. She also gratefully volunteered her time to support many activities at St. Timothy's.

A force. A woman ahead of her time. Fiercely loved by her family, who are confident that Jane earned enough earthly points to be reunited with her husband, Paul, and daughter, Kate, to share a delicious and generous supply of chocolate in Heaven.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday July 16, 2022 at 10 am at St. Timothy's, 1116 N Main St, West Hartford, CT. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests that donations be sent to either Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park (www.friendsvinp.org) or the Wellesley Scholarship Foundation (<https://www.wellesleyscholarshipfoundation.org/donate>). Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

JUL **16**. 10:00 AM (ET)

Church of St. Timothy
1116 North Main St
West Hartford, CT 06117
(860) 233-5131

Tribute Wall

SB

“ So sorry to read of your loss. Mary Jane was a frequent customer at Bookworm in West Hartford Center. She was absolutely delightful in every way! Peace and hugs to the entire family, Sarah Bedell (Retired Bookworm)

Sarah Bedell - July 18, 2022 at 09:50 AM

SB

“ I always think of Jane as a loving parent and a good friend, but most of all as an exceptionally kind person. There should be lots of chocolates waiting, dear Jane.

Susan Brown - July 15, 2022 at 03:03 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Jane Kuhn.



July 13, 2022 at 06:22 PM

MR

“ Dear Julie and John, and family,

I was delighted to read about the new Philip James, then deeply saddened to read about your Mom's passing. Jane was such a positive and profound influence in my life. She and Paul were generous beyond measure to take a teenager into their lovely West Hartford home, to include me in so many of your family experiences, and to celebrate my own accomplishments in adulthood. I hold your Mom forever in my heart with love and deep sense of gratitude. With love to you all. Mary Margaret

Mary Ragno - July 10, 2022 at 07:04 AM

JM

MM - thanks for sharing these beautiful thoughts. Mom held you in her heart too, as John and I do!

Julie Macdonald - July 11, 2022 at 01:03 PM

EB

“ Dear Jane. My memory is of Rowmont and your cheerful lanky self. Your encouraging words whist I played tennis badly. Swimming in the dark mysterious Lake Jane and doing my very best to not touch the squishy silted bottom. You cupping your hands around your mouth to call us kids in for breakfast at 6pm (this was 'Backwards Day') And Paul grinning and ringing the bell from the house too. Then Mary,Mary, Julie, John, chris and Joey squirming around the table, clamouring with excitement as you presented us with a platter filled with stacks of steaming pancakes bursting with the blueberries we picked after dinner that morning. Oh, the joy of it all and you at the centre wearing a yellow Marrimekko scarf. Blessing upon blessings. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Elizabeth George Barker - July 08, 2022 at 04:07 AM

JM

Love this memory, Liz, and cherish it too!

Julie Macdonald - July 11, 2022 at 01:06 PM

CS

*To Julie & John,
Your mom was a longtime friend from the Wellesley Club. In addition, she was involved at C.G. when I was hired right out of college. My daughters, Jean & Nancy, and I also shared a wonderful vacation with your entire family in St. John, way back in the late '70s. I can remember one night when the five of you went into town & were quite late returning to the campground!
My thoughts & prayers are with all of your family at this sad time. May the memories of all you shared help give you comfort & peace,*

Carol Scoville - July 11, 2022 at 05:53 PM

JM

Carol, thank you for sharing your CG and St John memories. She loved her Cinnamon Bay groups and we share an affinity with all those who came over the years even after we Kuhn kids moved on. In fact, given your recollection, she was probably relieved once her kids stopped coming! We do have many happy memories to take comfort in.

Julie Macdonald - July 13, 2022 at 08:09 PM