



Mary Patricia (Pat) H. Rahn

March 6, 2026

Mary Patricia (Pat) H. Rahn passed away peacefully at home on March 6, 2026, surrounded by her children. She was born on the south side of Chicago on June 15, 1934, and graduated from Loretto Academy, an all-girls high school run by the Sisters of Loretto, in 1952. She received a scholarship from the Pullman Foundation in Chicago, which supports the dreams and aspirations of outstanding graduating high school seniors, to attend St. Xavier College for Women, founded by the Sisters of Mercy, where she graduated in June 1956 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing – BSN and Registered Nurse – RN degree, which at that time was a very forward-looking degree designed to upgrade the profession of nursing.

Early during her college years, she attended a dance party where the men each picked a shoe out of the pile of shoes the women had created, and she met her future husband Robert (Bob) William Rahn. It was a costume party, and Bob was wearing a large fake nose and glasses, and she felt so sorry for him that she agreed to go on a date 😊. On October 27, 1956, they were happily married in Chicago.

Pat worked at Illinois Central Hospital until April 1957, when she (much to the dismay of her mother who wanted her to stay and care for her two younger sisters) moved with Bob to Edina, Minneapolis, MN, where Bob began his job at the Fire Inspection Bureau after graduating as a fire protection and safety

engineer with a scholarship from Illinois Institute of Technology. She described her life in Edina as a blur, from being a stay-at-home mom, giving birth to all six of her beautiful children in seven years, while also working weekends as a nurse and being involved in the PTO. Her children remember her as a happy mom, dancing around the kitchen to tunes like “Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weenie Yellow Polka Dot Bikini” and Jambalaya (On the Bayou) while talking on the phone to all her friends and feeding one baby in the arms, another in the high chair, and the rest at the table, while Bob was away in the evenings pursuing a law degree at William Mitchell College of Law in Minneapolis.

Life got even better when Bob took a job with Aetna and later The Hartford, and they moved to West Hartford, Connecticut, in 1965. Pat displayed her true “Energizer Bunny” characteristics by helping her school-aged children start at Duffy, joining Welcome Wagon, taking bridge and tennis lessons, and getting involved in various book groups as well as the League of Women voters, supporting Nan Streeter, who was running for Mayor of West Hartford. She recalls that in those “old-fashioned days,” when she wrote a letter of recommendation for Nan, she had to sign as Mrs. Robert Rahn!

When her youngest daughter was about 12, Pat read about a Nurse Practitioner Program at Hartford Hospital and applied, but didn’t get in. When she called to ask what would make her a better candidate, they told her to get more work experience, and she was offered a position as a school nurse at Conard High School, which several of her children already attended. She loved that job, including the summers off. Two years later, she applied for the Nurse Practitioner Program and was accepted. With that degree, she got one of the 4 new Nurse Practitioner positions at Hartford Hospital, and she thoroughly enjoyed that role. But as she worked, she realized the huge psychological impact that physical illness has on people, and at 50, with her energizer battery still full, she told Bob that she wanted to get a Master’s degree, and off she went, driving herself to New Haven regularly to complete

the 4-year part-time program at Yale, graduating with a Master's in Psychiatric Nursing, which also led to a set of wonderful new young friends, as she was the oldest in the program. She then began a new position at Hartford Hospital as a Psychiatric Liaison Nurse (PLN), which is a specialized registered nurse who acts as a bridge between mental health services and medical/surgical teams in hospitals, assessing and managing patients with co-occurring mental and physical health conditions, such as delirium, depression, or substance abuse, ensuring comprehensive, integrated care. She was active in the Connecticut Society of Nurse Psychotherapists and helped secure legal changes that allowed for full advanced nursing practice in Connecticut. She wound up her career with a very successful private practice.

Pat was predeceased by her husband Bob (d. Oct 29, 2000), her father, Hugh Hanlon, her mother, Katherine (Doyle) Hanlon, and all her siblings - Hugh (Jimmy), Frank (Curly), Rosemary, Claire, and Major Mary Katherine (Kitty). She is survived by her children: daughters Renis (Kim) of Denmark and Portugal; Rebecca of West Hartford, CT and Rachel of Springfield, MA and sons David (Susan) of Chico, CA; Greg (Patricia) of American Canyon, CA; and Paul (Diane) of Nelson, MN, as well as seven grandchildren: Gary, Gregory, Katie, Reanna, Ashley, Isabella, and Maika and 7 great grandchildren. She is also survived by nieces and nephews Mark, Johnny, Rosemary, George, and her very special niece, Terrie, with her husband Kevin. Her Funeral Mass will be held at 11:30 am on March 12, 2026, at St. Peter Claver Church, followed by a reception at the Parish Hall, burial will be private. Pat's family would like to express their sincere gratitude to the hospice staff at McLean as well as her daughters for their incredible care during her last days. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Pat's name to The House of Bread (<https://www.hobread.org/>).

Previous Events

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR 12. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Peter Claver Church
47 Pleasant St
West Hartford, CT 06107-1600
(860) 561-4235

**Flowers to Molloy FH prior to 10 am on day of service.*

Tribute Wall



“ *Molloy Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Mary Patricia (Pat) H. Rahn*



Molloy Funeral Home - March 10 at 12:34 PM

MA

“ *To the Rahn Family,*

I didn't know your mom but hearing many things from my brother George and reading her obit, she was quite a woman. To do such a great job of raising all of those kids speaks for itself and carries on her legacy. I wish that I knew about the service. I would have attended. I am very sorry for your loss and you are all in my thoughts and prayers. Mark Lewis

Mark - March 14 at 07:53 PM

CR

“ *Claudia Ryan purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mary Patricia (Pat) H. Rahn.*



Claudia Ryan - March 11 at 12:25 PM

DD

“ You were always so helpful. I can not appreciate enough how you helped Reanna. You sent me the book *Women who run with the Wolves!* Never forget you ever!!

Diane Danner - March 10 at 02:28 PM

PF

“ Paul Rahn Family purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Mary Patricia (Pat) H. Rahn.



Paul Rahn Family - March 10 at 02:04 PM

PR

“ We want to live with sunshine in the rain,
We want to die with memories that remain.
Wine, women, song and dance,
Storming soul of a river,
Born living under the stars,
We close our eyes forever.
I love you Mom!!! 💕

Paul Rahn - March 10 at 01:49 PM

DD

Beautiful!

Diane Danner - March 10 at 02:29 PM

LE

Beautifully said!

Lynn Edgar - March 12 at 09:51 AM

RL

“ *What an incredible woman!!!! I had the privilege of being her granddaughter and we shared a great bond. I will miss her voice, laughter, and advice on life. I love you Nana! 💕*

Reanna Lynnes - March 10 at 01:43 PM

LS

“ *Pat Rahn was a remarkable woman. I first met her as she was recovering from some injuries and trying to get back into tennis at the young age of 80! She was energetic, smart, a great friend and timely, always being able to speak to current affairs. She was one of the kindest people I have had the pleasure of meeting and eventually calling a friend. I am a better person for having had her in my life. I know she will be sorely missed by her family. But you all know how much she loved you. You carry a piece of her with you in your heart. Thinking of you all and sending peaceful thoughts your way. Lee Stang, LMT and friend.*

Lee Stang - March 10 at 01:28 PM

SM

“ *Pat, you were a pillar of my early career and subsequent life. Your massive warm life presence leaves a larger void than many, but such warm memories. I was a young psychiatric resident when I met her going alone in to a busy city hospital ER on night call. You stiffen your spine & do what you have to do. Pat was always smiling; she looked like sunshine to me and gave me such confidence. When she became ill, I wanted to fight back.. I found myself researching medical literature, a mortal endeavor. I could always talk with Pat more in depth about spiritual issues than anyone else I knew. I am now in an ordination program and am taking Pat with me. She talked at length to me mostly about her family during her final years, of whom she as so intensely fond and proud. I wish them all the best life has to offer. God speed.*

Stephanie Mullany - March 10 at 10:27 AM

RR

Thank you so so much for this wonderful memory of our mother!

Renis Rahn - March 10 at 10:55 AM

AH

I had the opportunity to watch the video of Aunt Pat's funeral Mass, and hearing Renis, Rachel, Becky, and Greg speak about her was truly moving. Living so far away, I didn't have the chance to know her as well as I would have liked, but their stories gave me a deeper appreciation for the remarkable person she was. She truly seemed like a pioneer of her time, balancing work while raising six wonderful, successful children.

I do treasure the times we did spend together. I remember meeting Aunt Pat, Rachel, and Rebecca for lunch when I was bringing my daughters out to college in Providence—it was such a pleasant visit. Years earlier, when my children were small, we stopped to see Uncle Bob and Aunt Pat during an East Coast trip. I remember a lovely hike together and sharing meals and conversation.

Those memories mean a lot to me, and I hope in the years ahead to build even closer bonds with my cousins as we carry those family connections forward.

andrea hauger - March 15 at 12:05 PM

DM

“*Drs. Stephanie & Larry Mullany purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary Patricia (Pat) H. Rahn.*



Drs. Stephanie & Larry Mullany - March 10 at 10:08 AM