



Patricia Ann O'Brien

September 26, 2019

Patricia Ann O'Brien (née Higgins), 74, of West Hartford, CT, and Narragansett, RI, passed away peacefully in the evening on September 26, 2019 in hospice care at St. Francis Hospital after an almost two year battle with cancer. Pat was born on March 29, 1945 in Brooklyn, NY to John J. Higgins and Mary (Healy) Higgins. She attended Catherine McAuley High School and graduated from Brooklyn College in 1967 with a degree in Elementary Education. Pat taught elementary school in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, NY, Orange, CT, and Norfolk, VA.

Pat leaves behind her beloved husband of almost 52 years, John J. O'Brien, M.D., and her beloved daughters, Jennifer Gillis (Matthew Gillis) of West Hartford, CT, Kieran O'Brien of Portland, OR, and Meghan O'Brien (Adam Cervin) of Medfield, MA. She also leaves her much-loved granddaughters, Katherine, Grace, and Rowan Gillis, to whom she will always be their Mimi. Pat also leaves her brother, John Higgins, and his wife, Barbara of Hopewell Junction, NY, her sisters-in-law, Betsy Courtenay and Nancy Walker, both of Naples, FL, as well as many loving nieces and nephews.

Pat was an avid reader who also loved gardening and decorating. She enjoyed traveling with her husband and close friends, especially to Ireland where she had family. Pat also spent many happy summers in Narragansett, R.I. with her family.

Pat gave her time and energy to many causes, most importantly to Catholic Charities, The St. Francis Hospital Auxiliary, and St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church.

Pat will be remembered most for her warmth, compassion, and kindness towards everyone she met.

Pat's family would like to thank Dr. Jonathan Sporn and the staff at Smilow Cancer Center at St. Francis Hospital, Dr. Yelena Janjigian and Dr. Richard O'Reilly at Memorial Sloan Kettering, the nurses and staff on the Oncology floor at St. Francis Hospital, and the entire hospice staff.

Calling hours will be Tuesday, October 1st at from 5-8 p.m. at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, October 2nd at 10:00 a.m. in St. Patrick-St Anthony Church, 285 Church St., Hartford. Burial will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. Donations may be made in Pat's memory to Smilow Cancer Center at St. Francis Hospital, 114 Woodland Street, Hartford, CT 06105. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Fairview Cemetery

200 Whitman Ave.
West Hartford, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hours

OCT 1. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT 2. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick St. Anthony Church
285 Church Street
Hartford, CT

Tribute Wall

GO

“ Dear Jay and family. My thoughts and prayers are with you all at this sad time. Such a beautiful lady, friend and neighbor! I have been visiting Carey and family in Canada and am so sorry that I am unable to attend Pat's services. I am sure Fred and Nora have welcomed Pat in Heaven! Peace!❤️

Ginny O'Brien - October 01, 2019 at 08:53 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann O'Brien.



October 01, 2019 at 07:51 AM

BD

“ We were so saddened to hear of Pat's passing. Pat was a wonderful neighbor and friend; a woman so vibrant, caring, friendly and full of life. She will always be fondly remembered for her kind thoughtfulness to everyone in our family. Our deepest sympathy and prayers go to Jay and Jennifer, Kieran, Meghan and their loved ones.

-Dougherty Family

Bill Dougherty - September 30, 2019 at 09:31 PM

DF

“ Dear Jay and family,
Your Pat was a classy lady. Always gracious and genteel. She looked straight at the person(s) with whom she was conversing, always paying full attention to what they were saying. It made people feel she cared what they said.
And she was genuine. Never said anything she didn't mean. She had a natural presence about her, but people were always comfortable in it. Just wanted to be around her.
And she enjoyed our countless stories of highschool and college that she had heard over and over at alumni meetings, and laughed with us as if they were new.
We are better people because of her.

Doug and Aideen Fraser

Doug and Aideen Fraser - September 30, 2019 at 06:30 PM

JM

“ Dear Jay,

Connie and I were so saddened to hear that you lost Pat. We remember spending very sweet moments with her at our 50th reunion. Connie was particularly taken with her kindness as they engaged in some "girl talk" together. Please know that you and your family are in our thoughts.

Sincerely,

Jim and Connie Malone

Jim Malone - September 30, 2019 at 02:03 PM

BJ

“ Barbara & John purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Patricia Ann O'Brien.



Barbara & John - September 30, 2019 at 01:11 PM

SC

“ Sean, Chris, Kevin, Kristin, Erin and Chip purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Patricia Ann O'Brien.



Sean, Chris, Kevin, Kristin, Erin and Chip - September 30, 2019 at 01:11 PM

DW

“ Jay, our prayers and condolences are with you and your family at this sorrowful time. From what you told Bob Scavullo, we know she is with the Lord and at peace. bob and Teresa Weierman

Dr Bob and Teresa Weierman - September 30, 2019 at 10:33 AM

MB

“ Jay, I am Jay BUONANNO's sister..I am so very sorry for your loss of an amazingly wonderful person and wife. You two were such a team and deserve the love and respect of your close family and many caring friends.
Marge Boss

marge boss - September 29, 2019 at 08:34 PM

PG

*Dr. O' Brien,
So sorry to hear of the loss of your
wife, Pat.
All the wonderful memories of your lives together will sustain you.
Sincerely,
Pat Gargano
(Former patient)*

Pat Gargano - September 30, 2019 at 08:39 AM



“ *Heavenly Sentiments Spray was purchased for
the family of Patricia Ann O'Brien.*



September 29, 2019 at 04:34 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the
family of Patricia Ann O'Brien.*



September 29, 2019 at 03:44 PM

JO

“ Words cannot begin to express how sad David and I were to hear of Pats passing. She was a ray of sun shine and positivity while she and David received their treatments at the cancer center. Few people touch your life and she certainly touched ours. We will miss her.

So sorry John and her girls (who she loved to tell us about) for the loss of this beautiful lady.

David and Jeanne O'Brien


Jeanne O'Brien - September 29, 2019 at 01:41 PM

MM

“ Maria and Michael purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Patricia Ann O'Brien.



Maria and Michael - September 29, 2019 at 12:29 PM


DaveandS
Campbell

“ Pat was a lovely, sweet and caring person. She always made me feel I was the center of her attention when we saw each other, making me feel very special. She will be missed dearly by family and friends, and we send our love and prayers to her family and especially to Dr. O'Brien.

With love, Dave and Sally Campbell

DaveandSally Campbell - September 29, 2019 at 09:17 AM