



## Patricia P. Cornell

January 11, 1927 - April 14, 2006

CORNELL, Patricia P.

Patricia Plummer Cornell, 79, beloved wife of Robert W. Cornell, passed away peacefully at St Francis Hospital on April 14 after a short illness. She was born in New York City on January 11, 1927, the daughter of Edwina W. and Charles A. Plummer, and grew up in Old Greenwich and Stamford, CT. Pat graduated from Low Heywood School in Stamford in 1944 and attended Wellesley College, Class of 1948, but transferred as a senior to Barnard College after serving as Conference Officer to Eleanor Roosevelt for the Human Rights Council at the Special Session of the United Nations in Lake Success, NY in 1948. After graduating from Barnard in 1949, she worked in the private office of John D. Rockefeller, Jr. in New York City. In 1976, she started graduate school at Trinity College, receiving her MA in History of Education in 1979. While attending Trinity, she researched and wrote several papers on Noah Webster's contribution to the Continental Convention while serving on the West Hartford Bicentennial Celebration Committee. After marrying Dr. Robert W. Cornell in the Stamford First Congregational Church on June 24, 1950, the Cornells moved to West Hartford where they lived at 72 Mountain Road for seven years and at 40 Belknap Road for 46 years. In July 2003, they moved to Duncaster, a retirement community in Bloomfield. While in West Hartford, Pat served as president of the Barnard Club and started the Intercollege Forum with several other women's college alumnae clubs. For the first forum, Pat had Eleanor Roosevelt as the moderator. Pat was an

active volunteer in Barnard and Wellesley alumnae affairs for many years, serving as a class agent and fundraiser. After her mother's passing in 1994, Pat established the Edwina Woodling '26 and Charles Arnold Plummer Scholarship Fund at Wellesley for English majors. When her children left home, Pat became a substitute teacher in the Bilingual Program of the Hartford School System. Pat was an Elder of Asylum Hill Congregational Church, and a member of the Town & County Club, the Hartford Golf Club, the Wellesley Club, and the Barnard Club. In the 1960s and 1970s, Pat often joined her husband on many business and vacation trips to Europe and visited many countries. After her husband retired, she enjoyed visiting Egypt, Greece, Russia, Israel, China, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Chile, Mexico, and most of the Caribbean islands. In addition to travel, Pat loved to read, swim, play tennis and squash, go to the opera, theater, and concerts. Besides her husband, Pat leaves a brother, Dirk A. Plummer of Sea Bright, NJ, and four children and nine grandchildren: Richard W. Cornell of Groton, CT; Delight C. Dobby of Westmount, Quebec, Canada, and her children, Timothy and Emily; Elizabeth C. Wilkin of Andover, MA and Warren, NH and her children, Ann, Joseph, Henry, Helen, and Thomas; and Shelly C. Wolfe of New York City and her children, Laura and Robert. Burial will be private. A memorial service for Patricia will be held at Duncaster in mid May after her oldest daughter, Delight Dobby, and her husband return home from Australia. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Pat's memory to Asylum Hill Congregational Church, 1814 Asylum Avenue, Hartford, CT 06105. Online messages of sympathy and remembrance may be made at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ Dear Bob,  
I was sorry to learn of Pat's passing. I have enjoyed having both of you at events at Trinity College where we shared views of making the world better. I know that Pat valued Trinity partly because of the degree she earned there.  
I am sure this will be a difficult time for you after 55 years together but I am sure you and your family will be able to remember the wonderful influence she had on all of us.  
Gerry Gunderson##imported-begin##Gerald Gunderson##imported-end##

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April 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Patricia P. Cornell was such a nice lady. I remember at the Hartford Golf Club she would call Alicia, Sheila. She brought a smile on my face and we will always remember her. We are very sad for you all.##imported-begin##The Healey Family##imported-end##

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April 18, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bob, Dirk and Family,

*As you are well aware, I knew Pat from the days when we were teenagers at Southfield Point in Stamford. What fun we had in diving from the rocks at high tide and walking along the seawall in all seasons.*

*Pat was a dear companion during those halcyon days. Like the Stamford lighthouse beacon, her cheerful smile and greeting were always there for me.*

*Years later, I will always be grateful to Pat for visting us when we lived on Sherbrooke Avenue in Hartford. After the 1960 fire at Hartford Hospital where my former husband was a resident in Internal Medicine, Pat saw to it personally that our older son, Tony, received a scholarship to the Asylum Hill Congregational Church nursery school.*

*Later still, I remember her kindness when she and Bob visited us with flowers after my mother died in January, 1996.*

*Not only are all of my many memories of Pat such happy ones, but I also know that she set a standard for charitable acts that serves as a model to the rest of us.*

*Please be assured that Frank and I are thinking of you and of her and that it is a privilege to tell others of her good deeds.*

*Much love from,*

*Joan and Frank Sussler##imported-begin##Frank and Joan Hall Sussler##imported-end##*

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April 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ We are saddened by the death of Pat and will always be grateful for and remember her kindness and friendship when we joined the Hartford Golf Club and throughout the years. Her enthusiasum playing tennis, squash and at the pool was catching and the memory of that will forever bring a smile to my face. May joyous memories fill your days ahead.##imported-begin##greg & harriet boyko##imported-end##

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April 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Bob and family,  
We were very saddened to learn of your loss. Pat was a truly fine woman, and this community will miss her greatly. We hope you find consolation in knowing others are thinking of you at this difficult time.##imported-begin##Peggy and Ruben Shapiro##imported-end##

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April 17, 2006 at 12:00 AM