



Rosemary Ann Shea

October 2, 2019

Rosemary Ann (Sasseen) Shea, 87, formerly of Hartford, CT, and of Roslindale and Arlington, MA, died peacefully Wednesday (October 2, 2019) at her daughter's home in Kittery, Maine. Born on March 14, 1932, the third of four children to George T. and Rosemary (Head) Sasseen, she grew up in Weston, CT, where she enjoyed exploring the surrounding woodlands and venturing off on her bicycle. She attended Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School in Washington, DC, where she was known for her athleticism in field hockey, basketball, and softball, as well as for her fun-loving spirit. She attended the University of Connecticut, School of Nursing, graduating in 1954 with a B.S. and R.N. She was a member of Delta Zeta Sorority, as well as the swimming and field hockey clubs. A dog lover, Rosemary was often tasked with the safe-keeping of the UConn mascot, the husky dog, whom she kept hidden in her room when rival sports teams came to campus. Upon graduating, she became a nurse with the Visiting Nurses Association in Hartford, CT. Nursing, specifically elder care, was her vocation, and she worked for her entire career at several nursing homes in the Greater Hartford area, including as a nurse supervisor at Greenwood Health Center, until her retirement in 2001. As a member of the Catholic Graduates Club of Greater Hartford, she met her husband, the Honorable David M. Shea (deceased) and they were married in 1956. Together they raised eight children on Newton Street and Westerly Terrace in Hartford. A loving wife, mother, grandmother, and sister, Rosemary is survived by her eight children, Susan Shea and her

husband, Ted Vogt, of West Brookfield, VT, Kathleen Shea and her husband Neill DePaoli of Kittery, ME, Margaret Shea Turner and her husband Lyle Turner of Amherst, OH, Christina Shea of Roslindale, MA, Rosemary Shea-Cobb and her husband Max Cobb of Westford, VT, Michael Shea and his wife, Frédérique Shea of Hartford, Maura Shea Crowley and her husband Stephen Crowley of Arlington, MA, and Julie Shea Crocker and her husband Andrew Crocker of Manchester, MA; her 18 loving grandchildren; and her beloved collie dog, Maggie. She was predeceased by her three siblings, Patricia (Sasseen) Van Cleve, George "Terry" Sasseen, and Sheila (Sasseen) Cowing. Rosemary was an active member of the Greater Hartford community including: as a parishioner of Our Lady of Sorrows Church and St. Joseph Cathedral, as PTO president of Noah Webster School, as a board member of Northwest Catholic High School, and a volunteer at the St. Joseph School for Young Children. She loved sports of all kinds, playing tennis, skiing, and competing as a U.S. Master swimmer while raising children. She was an enthusiastic fan of UConn women's basketball, and, in her later years, the Boston Red Sox. She had boundless energy and instilled a strong work ethic in her children, overseeing their delivery of the Hartford Courant in the early mornings before school. She was a lover of animals and nature, and was often seen walking through Elizabeth Park or the West Hartford reservoir system with her two collies. She was strong and independent with a great sense of humor and deep compassion for others. She will be deeply missed by her family and friends. Funeral services will be held Friday, October 11th at 11 a.m., Our Lady of Sorrows Church, 79 New Park Avenue, Hartford. Calling hours are Thursday, October 10th from 6-8 p.m. at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Avenue, West Hartford. Memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Food Pantry, 140 Farmington Avenue, Hartford, CT 06015. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Cedar Hill Cemetery

453 Fairfield Ave.
Hartford, CT

Previous Events

Calling Hours

OCT **10**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

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

Mass of Christian Burial

OCT **11**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Our Lady of Sorrows
79 New Park Ave.
Hartford, CT
(860) 233-4425

Tribute Wall



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rosemary Ann Shea.*



October 10, 2019 at 09:35 AM



“ *2 files added to the tribute wall*



Kate Cowing - October 10, 2019 at 07:42 AM



“ *On behalf of President and Head of School, Christian Cashman, I offer my deepest sympathy on the passing of Rosemary Shea. Rosemary, along with her children, is a valued member of the Northwest Catholic community, so we mourn her loss along with all who love her. Please know that Rosemary and her entire family will be remembered in a special way at our next school-wide Mass. We are very sorry for your loss. ~ Jane Leary, Director of Constituent Relations, Northwest Catholic High School*

Jane L. Leary - October 09, 2019 at 10:14 AM

MC

Thank you so much Jane. The Northwest community played a large roll in shaping all of us into the people we are today — all part of my mother's hopes and dreams for her children. - Maura Shea Crowley

Maura Shea Crowley - October 13, 2019 at 09:04 AM

SR

“*Please accept my condolences. When my parents were alive (Florence and Mel Roberts of Gay Acres Collies), they frequently saw your parents. My siblings and I knew who the Sheas were, and my mother would tell us of your family doings, sharing information as one does about close family members. I know that their relationship with your parents was very special to them. I hope that your memories will bring you joy at this time of loss. Sue (Roberts) Rouleau Barefoot Bay, Florida*

Susan Rouleau - October 08, 2019 at 01:13 PM

MS

Thank you so much Sue! My Mom was so proud of her Gay Acres collies and so enjoyed your parents. It was always so fun to go out and see the puppies. We always had collies in the family. Now, I am the proud owner of my Mom's last collie dog, Maggie. Caring for her has been my gift to my Mom. Thank you so much for your condolences. Margie Shea-Turner

Margaret Shea-Turner - October 08, 2019 at 03:59 PM

SS

I loved visiting Gay Acres kennels with my Mom and your mother was a mentor to me. I remember her calling "Pup, pup, pup" and all the collie puppies running to her. I'm a big dog-lover and have had several mixed breed rescue dogs here in Vermont.

Susan Shea - October 12, 2019 at 11:57 AM

MD

“ I am heartbroken to hear of Rosemary’s passing and would like to extend my deepest sympathy to all of you, her cherished children. Your Mom worked for me at Forestville Health and Rehab, a traumatic brain injury facility on the respiratory unit for just over a year from ‘90-91. She was so excited to take this staff nurse position as she wanted to grow and learn as a Registered Nurse. She loved it but only stayed a year as she missed Greenwood and returned to take a supervisory position. Although our time together was brief we remained lifelong friends and corresponded for many years. She wrote of all of her children’s graduations, accomplishments, and publications, as well as her husbands illness, and of her many dogs, and through these letters her love of life and her dynamic energy was clearly expressed. She loved every minute of her life and made the lives of those who knew her so much brighter. RIP dearest Rosemary...your light will shine in my heart always. 🙏❤️🙏. Mary Jane Densmore

mary jane densmore - October 07, 2019 at 09:51 PM

MS

Hi Mary Jane, Thank you so much for your kind words about my Mom. I remember when my mom started at Forestville. She was so proud of herself that she was learning new things. She would share stories about some of the patients and the kinds of injuries they were there for. I think it was an exciting job for her because it was so different than the other nursing jobs she had held. She spoke of you many times and I think missed working with you after she returned to Greenwood. I am so glad that the friendship continued on. Thank you so much for your sympathy.

Margie Shea-Turner

Margaret Shea-Turner - October 08, 2019 at 04:08 PM

MC

“ 2 files added to the tribute wall



Maura Shea Crowley - October 06, 2019 at 06:56 PM



“ Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Rosemary Ann Shea.



October 06, 2019 at 04:28 PM



“ Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the family of Rosemary Ann Shea.



October 06, 2019 at 02:52 PM

MC

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Maura Shea Crowley - October 06, 2019 at 02:20 PM