

## OBITUARY

### Mary Anne Gordon

Mary Anne Gordon, of Hackensettown, became an angel in heaven on Friday, Nov. 13, 2009. Mary Anne was born in Portsmouth, Va. on Oct. 19, 1954, a daughter of John A. and Anne McGrory.

Mary bravely battled pancreatic cancer, a disease with no cure, for the last 15 months. Her courage in facing this disease has been an inspiration for all of us.

Mary attended St. Augustine's Catholic School and was a 1973 graduate of North Hunterdon Regional High School. She then studied art in Europe, a passion that has shown in all aspects of her life.

Mary married in 1979 and gave birth to the love of her life, Cynthia Lee in 1981. A single parent when Cyndi reached the age of 14, Mary guided Cyndi through high school and college. Cyndi is now attending medical school, realizing a dream that both she and her Mom shared. In 2004, Mary married her soul mate, Al. Prior to her illness, Mary and Al frequently enjoyed entertaining the family and traveling.

Mary was the ultimate entertainer, artist, wife, sister, mother, daughter and amazing friend to so many people. Mary's life centered around her family, always planning birthday and holiday celebrations. Throughout her travels to California to visit her three sisters, Mary developed close friendships on the West Coast as well.

Mary worked a variety of jobs, but was most successful in the world of finance, both for the automobile industry and most recently for WAMU bank as an investment banker. She was the recipient of many "achievement" awards. Because Mary never met a stranger, she was loved by both her customers and all those who knew her.

Mary's astounding courage and inspiration during the past year will not be forgotten by those having had the privilege of caring for her. Special thanks go to her medical team, Dr. Stephen Shriebe-man, his assistant Erica, and all of the compassionate workers at both the Carol G. Simon Cancer Center at Morristown Memorial Hospital, and at St. Clare's Hospital in Dover. The family is most appreciative of Mary's best friend, Donna DeMartino, who from the very beginning undertook understanding Mary's disease and offered all of the emotional and physical support that she could to Mary.

She will be desperately missed by her husband Al, daughter Cyndi of Seattle, Wash., dogs Buddy and Jake and the rest of her family.

Besides her husband and daughter, she is survived by her mother, Anne McGrory of Hampton; brother Tom (Karyn) and nieces Emilie and Sarah Grace of Washington and brother John McGrory of North Branch; sisters from Ventura, Calif., Peggy McGrory and Susan Taylor (Harvey); nephew Ryan, Monica (Jack), and Donna.

Mary will also be tremendously missed by her hundreds of close friends, to whom she always gave her time, attention and unconditional love, as well as providing any thing they ever needed. All of us were truly blessed with the gift and the privilege of having Mary in our lives. Mary actually did change the world in her own special way.

A celebration of Mary's life is planned for Beaver Brook Country

~~The Express-Times~~

NAME: Mary Ann Gordon

DATE OF DEATH: 13 November, 2009

The Warren Reporter: 4 December 2009