

Patricia Summerhays

Sunday, September 27, 2009

Patricia Ann Bertheaud Summerhays, 48, of Lansdale, died Thursday, September 24, 2009, at her home surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with cancer. She was the beloved wife of 18 years to Robert F. Summerhays.

Born in Lansdale, she was the daughter of Patricia Carey Bertheaud of Lansdale, and the late Edmond P. Bertheaud. Patty was a 1980 graduate of Lansdale Catholic High School and received a BS in Nursing and BA in Creative Writing from Widener University. She also earned a Master of Fine Arts at George Mason University and was published in the American Poetry Review.

She was an intensive care and critical care nurse at various hospitals on the East Coast. Later in her nursing career, she worked in pediatric home health care.

Patty was a devoted mother and believed that her works demonstrated her faith. She was very active as a volunteer at her children's schools, including serving as a board member of the St. Jude Home and School Association. She held her family and friends dear to her heart and was loved by all who knew her.

In addition to her beloved husband and mother, she is survived by her two sons, Robert E. and John M., at home; two brothers, Edmond P. Bertheaud, Jr. and his wife, Charlene, of Delaware and Richard J. Bertheaud and his wife, Andrea, of Massachusetts. She is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

The family is forever grateful for the many kindnesses they received during the course of Patty's illness. The devotion of the Sisters of Mercy, the St. Jude's Parish family, the Mary Mother of the Redeemer Parish family, Patty's Angels, LaSalle College High School, Gwynedd Square Elementary School, Vitas Hospice and many other dear friends has sustained the family during this difficult time.

Her family will receive relatives and friends Tuesday, Sept. 29 at 4PM at St. Jude Church, 321 West Butler Ave., Chalfont, PA, 18914. Tuesday is also the birthday of The Venerable Catherine McAuley, founder of the Sisters of Mercy, to whom Patty was very devoted. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 6PM. Interment will be held privately in St. John Neumann Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to St. Jude Church, at the above address. Arrangements are by the Joseph A. Fluehr III Funeral Home, New Britain.

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