



## Elizabeth "Bette" Hartnett

February 16, 1939 - October 14, 2020

Elizabeth L. Hartnett passed peacefully on October 14, 2020 at the age of 81 with her family by her side. Elizabeth, who preferred to go by Bette, was a caring person and a life-long volunteer who always sought a way to give back to her community, whether through her local food pantry, driving the elderly to their appointments, or many, many hours at her church, St. Theresa's.

Bette was born February 16, 1939 in Salem, MA to Leo and Esther (Pelletier) Sullivan. She grew up attending St. Chretienne Academy in Salem, MA, where her 5'2" stature earned her the captain's position on the volleyball team. She received both her teacher's and dietician's licenses from Framingham State College.

Bette spoke often of her time during her internship at Mass General Hospital and how that propelled her into her career as a dietician. Having the MGH connection gave her even more pride when her daughter Kelly became a nurse at MGH in 2002. In 1963 Bette married Charles L. Hartnett, who brought her into the military life where they began to travel the world together while their family grew.

Charles passed in 1977 and Bette became a single mom raising her four children Karen, Michael, Kelly and Erin. Soon after, Bette took in Tara (Hughes) Aldrich who became an immediate member of the family. Bette managed this household along with dozens of neighborhood children and countless pets. She loved cooking and always left a light on for friends and family to visit and have a cup of tea.

Once her children were grown, Bette enjoyed traveling and arranged many trips around the seacoast, the country and the world, with her sister, her friends and her children.

Bette's family includes her sister Anne Masse and husband Harrison of Wolfeboro, NH, her brother Ray Sullivan and his wife Gail of Levittown, PA, her children, Karen (Hartnett) Wyman and her husband Scott of Hampton, Michael Hartnett and his wife Beth of Portsmouth, Kelly Hartnett of Portsmouth, Erin (Hartnett) Colliton and her husband Jim of

Wakefield, MA and Tara Aldrich and her husband Brian of Mason, OH, her grandchildren, Noah, Lincoln, Tori, Johanna, Cecelia, Drew, Samantha, Joseph, Jake, Brian and Colin. Bette has dozens of nieces, nephews, friends and loved ones from all her volunteering years.

A private family service will be held at St. Theresa's in Rye, the church that was central to Bette's Catholic Christian core and helped guide her through all the love she received and gave over her beautiful life. In lieu of traditional remembrances please consider a donation to the Alzheimer's Association(<https://www.alz.org/nca/donate>>)

# Comments

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“ Bette was a wonderful person and I will miss her.

Terri Harman

Terri Harman - December 07, 2020 at 02:11 PM

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“ Karen, Mike, Kelly & Erin, My deepest sympathies to you and your family. You're mom was on the nicest people I had the pleasure of growing up with. She was a love! I recall so many wonderful memories of spending hours and hours at your home. Your mom's smile and laughter was delightful. She was an amazing person who always put her children first. She raised 4 beautiful children, who surrounded her with love and joy. Watching her gleam at your weddings and professional accomplishments made her so proud. She will be dearly missed. I feel so fortunate and blessed to have had the opportunity to know your mom. I look forward to reminiscing about those wonderful teenage days at your home with your mom, and the fun we had hanging out at 6 Walnut Ave. Bette, rest in peace. God Bless. Tim Harrington & family

Tim Harrington - October 21, 2020 at 03:20 AM

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“ Bette was a lovely person. Always enjoyed seeing her at the Y. The world needs more like her and will be worse for the loss. Sincere condolences to her family.

Rebecca from the Y

R. - October 20, 2020 at 10:17 AM

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“ My deepest sympathy to the family.

Bette was one of the best and dearest friend I ever had. I could write a book on all the good times Claudia and I shared with Bette. For many years the three of us would meet up at the ocean at 7:45 am and we would walk a mile along the ocean. We could walk and talk, walk and laugh and walk and cry together. That is what best friends do. After walking we would go to Mass and sit in the same pew every day for years. After Mass we would go into the kitchen for coffee and chat with a group of other good friends. We were so blest. St. Theresa's was our home away from our home. we enjoyed working for church and Bette was always our leader. I will miss our chats every nite. Claudia and I took turns calling our beloved Bette every night. God Bless you my dear friend but I know you are with God.

**Pat McNamara** - October 18, 2020 at 08:31 PM