



## Marie M. Cushing

April 17, 1926 - February 6, 2021

Hampton - Con amor. With love - the signature at the end of every card she sent, and the way she lived her life. Marie (Kathryn) Mulcahy Cushing, 94, of Hampton, died from COVID-19 on February 6, 2021.

Marie was born on April 17, 1926, to Leo and Kathryn (Chisholm) Mulcahy in Malden, Massachusetts. A furrowed, determined independence threaded through her life, from Regis College graduate, to social worker for people with developmental disabilities at the Fernald State School, to pioneering American Airlines flight attendant.

In 1950, Marie moved to Hampton, where - thanks to some meddling matchmaking by their parents - she met Robert Reynolds Cushing. The two were wed in the Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Church on October 6, 1951. Marie became a loving mother to seven children. She led a boisterous house filled with its own language of inside jokes and family legends with a renowned generosity - somehow, Marie always found room for another plate at the table. Her patience was legendary, well-tested by (some of) her sons, and relieved by the "Giddy Gaddy Girls" - Marie and her same seven friends gathered, first for cocktails, then for coffee, to play bridge together for more than fifty years.

Once her youngest entered school, Marie began teaching reading in Newmarket. In addition to serving as a reading specialist, she later branched out to provide special education services, and took particular pride in her English language instruction to newcomer students. She was a respected educator, fondly remembered by students and fellow teachers for her kindness and love of books.

After the death of her husband, Marie retired from teaching but held on to her love of learning, exploring, and reading. She was a dedicated Red Sox fan, cheering on her favorite players from Ted Williams to Big Papi. Her heart was in Ireland, its music and poetry - she took great pride in bringing her grandchildren to visit the ancestral home where her own grandmother was born. A devotion to pearls, lipstick, and glamorous sweaters never held Grammie Marie back from crawling on the floor alongside her

grandbabies. She would do anything to make her family happy, even tolerating their pet cats. She found the deepest joy in watching a room full of her grandchildren reading books she had given them. Even in the waves of family and friends, she could gently hold your hand and make you feel cared for, as if you were the only person in the room.

Her family experienced Marie as the teacher and the matriarch - then, as dementia moved her into another phase of life, her family learned to care in a new way for someone who cared so much for others. Her children thank the wonderful staff at Langdon Place of Exeter for the special care they took of their mother over the years.

Marie's presence is felt in every scoop of ice cream, every cup of Lyons tea, every bite of macaroni and cheese, every bird spotted from a porch, and every moment snuggled up with a good book. Among her last words was a special message to her family: "Have a good time, enjoy yourselves, have fun, but not too much fun. I love you and miss you." Marie was preceded in death by her beloved husband Robert of 37 wonderful years; her son Michael; and son-in-law Stephen McRedmond, cherished husband of Matthew.

Marie is lovingly remembered by her six surviving children: Robert Cushing Jr. and his wife, Kristie Conrad; Matthew Cushing; Kevin Cushing and his wife Kathleen (Hanson); Marynia Page and her husband Richard; Christine Rockefeller and her husband Dale; and Timothy Cushing and his wife Janet (Batchelder).

She is survived by her three younger brothers - William Mulcahy and his wife, Ann; Edward Mulcahy and his wife Marilyn; and Ronald Mulcahy - and innumerable beloved nibblings, grandnibblings, and great-grandnibblings.

She was a bright guiding light for her fourteen grandchildren: Eleanor Fulmer and her husband Ronald; Rose Murray and her husband John; Isaac Cushing and his wife Julia (Barkley); Marie Cushing and her husband Austin Beckford; Danielle Cushing; Abigail Rockefeller; Christine Page and her wife Uannya; Kathryn Rockefeller; Elizabeth Cushing; Alexander Cushing; Shannon Page; Kasey Cushing; Grace Cushing; and Hillary Cushing.

Her joy lives on in her ten great-grandchildren: Katie Fulmer, Caleb Cushing, Ronald "Trey" Fulmer III, Isabella Cushing, Jesse Murray, Corrine Murray, Riley Fulmer, Avery Fulmer, Julian Cushing, and Ellie Fulmer.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, there will be a private family service. On April 17, which would have been Marie's 95th birthday, please take a moment in your day to remember and honor her. In lieu of flowers, her family humbly asks you to wear a mask and treat the

pandemic seriously. Memorial gifts can be made in Marie's memory to the Children's Literacy Foundation at <https://clifonline.org> to continue her legacy of inspiring young readers.

"Heaven knows no frontiers  
And I've seen heaven in your eyes."  
Jimmy MacCarthy

# Comments

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“ To my dear friend, Mrs. Marie Cushing. I only knew you for six months or so; sadly, you were robbed of your memories at the end but we were buddies and we raised a little Cain during meal times and you were always a sweetheart. Just found out about your passing today. I shall cherish the memories.

**Toby Currier** - March 14 at 11:01 PM

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**Lisa** - April 17, 2021 at 09:21 AM

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“ Marie Cushing made me believe in the goodness and kindness of humanity. A lovely, loving woman!  
Sharon Tracy

**Sharon Tracy** - March 03, 2021 at 09:28 PM

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“ To the family of the wonderful Marie -

Thank you for blessing so many of us with the privilege of knowing and loving sweet Marie. She made caring for her every day so easy with her loving kind spirit and contagious smile and laugh. She is so very missed. Our condolences with her family. Thank you all so much for the memories with Marie.

**Jesslyn C** - March 03, 2021 at 01:16 PM

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“ Marie will always be in our hearts and minds, with many memories of a life well-lived. She was a wonderful friend and mother, blessed with so many talents. Such a loving and kind person.

Al and Cowie Casassa

**Al Casassa** - March 02, 2021 at 10:48 AM



“ I only met Marie a couple of times and only briefly, but even so it was clear she was special. She glowed. And she raised amazing children. I will light a candle April 17.  
-- Cathy Wolff

**Cathy Wolff** - March 01, 2021 at 09:38 AM

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“ What a beautiful obit--what a beautiful mother, wife, teacher, friend, citizen of the world, and woman. So many memories of 395--backyard barbecues, moth meat, smellwell, pi(e) is not square, pie is round. Edgy puttering and Marie, as always, unflappable, welcoming, dryly witty. Classy. Interested in one and all. Maternal without hovering. Always, as was said, room for one more. Always visitors were made to feel welcome and a part of. Always she would have just finished a book or be ready to discuss some important issue of the day. Extravagant hospitality. Forever appreciated, forever treasured. My heart is with you all and you can be sure I will be lighting a West Coast candle on April 17th--much love and may Marie's light live on--

**HEATHER KING** - February 26, 2021 at 05:52 PM

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“ My heart goes out to Marie's entire family . I so enjoyed talking with her and listening to  
All the stories she had . She loved her coffee and was always so excited to see a Peanut butter cup coming her way ! God rest her soul and fly with the angels Marie !  
You  
Surely earned your wings !



**Diane sturgis** - February 26, 2021 at 04:07 PM

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“ For Marie's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends...

Marie was special. You knew it the first time you met her. For me, it was in Nashville, TN when she visited her son, Matthew. She had beautiful blue eyes, a sparkling smile and she engaged you in conversation. She wanted to get to know a little bit about you.

Marie enjoyed books, all types of literature, poetry and she passed this appreciation along to her son, Matthew. This taking the time for reading and branching out into different genres was strengthened in me by her son.

It is understandable why she was loved dearly by her children and close friends.

They will miss her and always remember their special times with her.

Sending my love to all who loved Marie.

Anita Sheridan

Anita M. Sheridan - February 26, 2021 at 12:26 PM

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“ Much love to you and yours my dear friend. What a marvelous obituary.

David E. Cote - February 26, 2021 at 07:08 AM

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“ Renny and family, What a beautiful tribute to an amazing woman. That picture reminds me of her incredible strength, courage and resilience through such difficult times and her ability to instill those qualities in everyone who knew her. I am honored to have had the opportunity to have known her and my thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Sandi Matheson

Sandra Matheson - February 25, 2021 at 10:15 PM

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“ I was blessed to know Marie the beloved matriarch from the time I was 18 starting my freshman year at Boston college. witnessing her humor, curiosity, love of life and non-martyr-like devotion to her family (and anyone else!) was a lesson in how to do this life that I needed then and still need to remember now. I remember years after I met her, hearing that while visiting Nashville she was heading out to a yoga class- I expressed some apprehension about yoga and she replied she loved yoga! She opened a window into yoga for me too. The spirit of Marie is alive and well in her children and grandchildren. What a blessing for us who know her to learn from her example. May you Rest In Peace Marie!

Tina Allocco - February 25, 2021 at 09:02 PM



“ Renny, family & friends of Marie: Love and solidarity with you at this hour - and forever.

**AI G** - February 25, 2021 at 08:31 PM

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“ Love personified.

**Eileen Brady** - February 25, 2021 at 06:54 PM



“ What a wonderful woman. Blessings Remmy and family!

**Gladys Johnsen** - February 25, 2021 at 07:26 PM



“ Renny and family, I am so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. Very moved by who she was and how she lived her life. I hope that all of her loved ones will always feel her presence with you. On her birthday, April 17th, I will send prayers for her and all of you. Blessings and Love

**Ariel** - April 03, 2021 at 01:01 AM

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“ My son took care of Marie at the Langdon place he absolutely adored her he gave her a hat and blanket for Christmas and her eyes lit up with complete joy I grew to really adore her as well may she gain her golden wings such a precious gem you'll be very much missed Marie especially your awesome sense of humor Rest In Peace



**Corri Eaton/Jace Eaton** - February 25, 2021 at 07:09 AM

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“ I had the pleasure of tending to Marie during meal times at Langdon before she was in need of additional care. She was always a happy gal and liked to sit by the window. Her sense of humor was always with her. Condolences to all of you especially to my old classmate Kevin. Sincerely, Kathy Gagne

**Kathy Gagne** - February 24, 2021 at 03:19 PM