



## Sharon F. Youschak

October 28, 1941 - May 22, 2019

Portsmouth – Sharon (Hemings) Youschak, 77 of Rye, passed away peacefully on Wednesday, May 22, 2019 after a lengthy illness at the Edgewood Centre in Portsmouth.

Sharon was born in Syracuse, NY on October 28, 1941, the daughter of Budrick R. and Beatrice (Woodworth) Hemings. She attended Syracuse grade schools and in her early teens, Sharon was crowned "Little Miss Thruway" in a beauty pageant celebrating the historic opening of the New York State Thruway in 1954. Sharon attended Ohio University where she was very involved in sorority life and majored in journalism. Before getting married, she worked as a journalist at a newspaper in Boston and later a weekly paper in Portland, ME. She married her first husband, Willard H. Wires and lived in Massachusetts and NH while raising their three children. She then became a well-respected and successful real estate broker at Norwood Group in Amherst, NH.

Sharon moved to Rye after marrying William J. Youschak. She was an avid reader and a strong advocate and volunteer at the Rye Public Library. She also loved to travel and had the opportunity to visit many countries during her life. Sharon was a true animal lover and actively contributed to the ASPCA and to loon preservation. She and her late husband were supportive of conserving the salt marshes and wetlands in the Rye coastal areas. They thought it important to prevent development and donated land area around their home on Locke Road to protect these fragile habitats.

Sharon's favorite place was Thompson Lake Maine where she spent every summer with her family and friends. She was extremely well read, loved a good debate but also loved to laugh. Her life was a dedication to love, support, and compassion for her friends and family.

She was the wife of William J. Youschak, who predeceased her in 2005. Family members include her three children: Susan W. Wires and her husband Richard Rodriguez of Peapack NJ; Joanna K. Wires and her husband Raudel Ulloa of Los Angeles, CA; Jonathan A. Wires and his wife Jill E. Anderson of Nashville, TN; and three grandchildren:

Zoë Wires, Addison Wires Rodriguez, and Cameron H Wires Rodriguez; along with close family friend Robert Wallis of Portsmouth.

Services will be held in the Central Cemetery, Rye later this year. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to either ASPCA, The Friends of The Rye Public Library, the Thompson Lake Environmental Association of Oxford Maine or the Loon Preservation Committee.

# Cemetery

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## **Central Cemetery**

20 Central Road

Rye, NH,

# Comments

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“ Sharon, my summer friend for 45 years.  
We played under the hot, sunny days of summer;  
and in the crisp, cool waters of Thompson Lake.  
We quietly rowed together in canoes;  
We went fast in motor boats, usually with one of our kids skiing behind.  
We played bridge in the sand with others in our lake community.  
And with those same people, we celebrated lobster bakes at our community cabana.  
We played tennis almost every day and  
Watched world renowned tennis players in person at the annual Volvo Tennis  
Classic.  
We eagerly awaited our reunion every June with arms full of books we had read over  
the winter to share with each other. We developed an outline of a novel we would  
write together.  
We talked, and talked, and talked. We solved all the world's problems, we talked  
politics, religion, bringing up kids, books, cooking, jobs, marriage.  
There were trips to the outdoor theater with kids already in pjs so they could hop into  
bed when we returned. We took them blueberry picking often--a Maine priority!  
One day Sharon was in her "real estate mode" and called me to ask if I knew  
"Frenchman's Island" was for sale (a much beloved and beautiful island in the middle  
of our lake). She said there was a phone number on a tree, and would I go with her if  
she could make an appointment with the seller at the other end of the phone number.  
She was just curious. She called the number, we went around the corner to talk with  
the seller's rep., we told our husbands about it being for sale. Before we knew what  
hit us, we had purchased the island, properly called "Birch Island," and we remained  
like family for 40 years living side by side on our special island retreat.  
We separated every Labor Day Weekend each heading into a full winter schedule of  
kids' lessons and sports and giving full devotion to our husbands and jobs.  
Our time together was idyllic and remains so alive in memory.  
Fly high, fly free, Sharon!

Jean Crimi

Jean Crimi - October 07, 2019 at 01:26 PM

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“ You all have our deepest sympathy in the loss of your Mother. We will always  
remember her. Sharon and Bill often stayed with us in Harborcreek, PA when they  
would visit Girard, PA. We always stayed in touch by phone, cards and letters. We  
thought the world of her.  
God Bless,  
Wilma and Bill Wood

wilma wood - September 27, 2019 at 09:31 PM



“ We always enjoyed seeing Sharon here at Rye Public Library...she was a wonderful friend and supporter of the library...our thoughts are with her family with sympathy...

Sincerely,  
The staff at Rye Public Library

**Rye Public Library** - June 07, 2019 at 11:53 AM

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“ We have fond memories of our wonderful neighbor Sharon! Our deepest sympathy to her family, she was a thoughtful intelligent woman with a big heart. Gwen and Jim Bailey

**Gwen Putnam-Bailey** - June 07, 2019 at 11:45 AM