



Mary Lou Martin

April 20, 1939 - March 19, 2024

Greenland - Mary Lou Martin of Greenland passed away peacefully on March 19, 2024, after a long illness. She spent her final days as she spent her life, surrounded by family members and dear friends. She was the widow of Harry Martin, with whom she shared 65 years of marriage and four children.

Mary Lou was born in Ipswich, Massachusetts, on April 20, 1939, the daughter of the late Forrest and Mary Anna Higgins. After moving to New Hampshire shortly after her marriage, her love for children developed into a daycare business, which lasted for more than 50 years. Friends often joked that Mary Lou had “helped to raise at least half the population of Greenland.”

Mary Lou Martin leaves children Dean and Robin Martin of Ormond Beach, Florida, Timothy Martin of Fort Lauderdale, and Lisa Martin and fiancé Greg Berk of Dover, and son-in-law Ralph Place. She is also survived by her brother, Forrest “Sonny” Higgins of Ocala, Florida, and Newburyport, her grandchildren Kimberly and Rob Conley, Katrina and Nick Harbaugh, Issac Dutkowski and Elliott Place, and great grandchildren Amelia and Lucas Harbaugh, Jamie Conley, Jaylee Conley, Kelsey and Carrie Hubbard and their son Brayden, great great granddaughter Raya Griffin, and numerous extended family members. Central to Mary Lou’s life were dear friends Marcia “Micki” Smith, Paula B Sargent and Donna Walton, who personified true friendship for more than fifty years. Mary Lou was predeceased by her siblings

Albert Higgins and Amy Higgins Dion, her daughter Kimberly Martin, son-in-law Frank Wilson, and grandson, Jamie Burdick.

Funeral services are scheduled at Community Congregational Church of Greenland, on Saturday, March 23 at 11 AM, followed by burial in Greenland. The family will be receiving guests at the church beginning at 10:15 AM.

Mary Lou's family would like to extend their gratitude to the team of professionals at Cornerstone VNA, who provided loving care for more than a year.

In lieu of flowers, the family has requested that donations be made to Community Congregational Church, PO Box 128, Greenland, NH 03840 in her memory

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR 23. 10:15 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Community Congregational Church
2 Post Road
Greenland, NH 03840

Memorial Service

MAR 23. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Community Congregational Church
2 Post Road
Greenland, NH 03840

Interment

MAR 23. 12:15 PM (ET)

Prospect Hill Cemetery
100 Post Rd
Greenland, NH 03840

Tribute Wall

DH

“ I can still feel the chill of those winter days, the freshness of a spring day filled with a trace of freshly cut grass, and the air of a hot humid day that brought out chilled lemonade, BBQ chicken, hamburgers, and hot dogs, and of course, there are the memories of the neighborhood camaraderie that had existed in that section of Greenland.

The neighborhood gatherings, where food and discussions were held in each other 's backyard, the snowmobiling, sledding, and running through the tall grass of nearby fields, as the days of youth were so enjoyed.

Looking back, one cannot ignore how much has changed – how silent the once energetic neighborhood has become and how many of those who made possible those seemingly endless days of youth are no longer about.

Mary Lou Martin, was one of the adults of that time who help bring the youth from the neighborhood into their adulthood. She will be missed.

David Hussey

David Bradford Hussey - March 24, 2024 at 04:35 PM



“ Enduring Grace was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Martin.



March 21, 2024 at 03:19 PM



“ *Sonny and Marie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Lou Martin.*

Sonny and Marie - March 21, 2024 at 03:19 PM



“ *Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Lou Martin.*



March 21, 2024 at 03:10 PM

J(

“ My first encounter with Mary Lou was in 1969. It was my first year (of 40) teaching in Greenland. Since there was no public kindergarten, this was also her daughter Kim’s first day of school. In those days, bomb threats were pretty common, and during that day, we were evacuated and sent out to the very dusty, rocky field for quite awhile, with no place to sit. Little girls wore dresses, and the children had to stand until the firemen gave us the all clear and we reentered the building. Kim was a sweet, quiet child and didn’t complain, although I was to find out the next morning that she had very recently had foot surgery and certainly must have been in some pain, as well as being afraid, during this situation. The school nurse, Ginny Holder, visited our school two afternoons each week and there was no sharing of info, so I had no idea about Kim’s surgery. I had not met most of the teachers, in fact, I had not entered the school until the children lined up, boys line and girls line, that first day. There were 36 wide eyed students! Anyway, day 2 arrived, and with it came a scathing note from Mary Lou! (when it came to her children, she was a mama lion) . How dare I make her poor little girl stand outside for so long when she was just recovering from foot surgery! What kind of a teacher was I? My very first parent note! My heart was broken! I was so very sorry that this poor little girl had been in pain, and got in touch with Mary Lou as soon as I could to explain that I had not been told of Kim’s situation and Kim had not said a word about her feet. Mary Lou was very understanding, and quickly became the loving, nurturing friend I came to love and respect. Years later, Mary would care for our 2 boys while I taught. No one could have been more kind and they loved Mary and Harry so very much! I know Mary Lou has joined Harry, and I’m sure our son, Rusty, was at Heaven’s Gate to greet her.

jan hutchins (whittemore) - March 21, 2024 at 02:24 AM

DH

*Ms. Hutchins,
What a sincere pleasure reading your words were. How it reminded me
of the days of long ago.*

David Bradford Hussey - March 22, 2024 at 09:49 PM

TM

Thank you for your kind words. Kim and my mother both adored you!

Tim Martin - March 23, 2024 at 05:38 PM