



Patricia B. Macdonald

May 20, 1935 - June 2, 2020

Rye Harbor - Patricia Brown Macdonald died peacefully at her home on Rye Harbor on June 2, 2020. Born Sydney Diane Daffan in Fredericksburg, Virginia, on May 20, 1935, at age four she was adopted by T. Beatty and Ruth Wise Brown and grew up on their 500-acre Upperville, Virginia farm.

She attended the Hill School and Hannah More Academy. After graduation she worked in Washington, D.C., including a stint at Car Life and Speed Age magazine. In 1956 she embarked on a grand tour of Europe, where she remembered seeing Soviet tanks abandoned in Vienna.

After her travels she settled in Stamford, Connecticut, and in 1958 married James L. Macdonald. Pat and Jim raised their family in Rowayton, Connecticut. Pat was active with the Girl Scouts, the United Church, and the Rowayton Gardeners.

She was a board member of the Norwalk Youth Symphony, and she and her husband compiled a history of the orchestra to mark its 25th anniversary. An enthusiastic tennis and paddle tennis player, Pat at age 35 was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She fought the disease to a draw for half a century and organized a team of Pat's Pals to participate in MS walks. The MS Society of Connecticut honored her for her fundraising.

During the 1970's Pat was surprised by a phone call from the late James Fitzhugh Daffan, the older of two birth brothers who had gone to an orphanage when she was adopted. She was delighted to get acquainted with her birth family – two brothers, their spouses and numerous nieces and nephews.

In 1996 she and her husband moved to Rye, New Hampshire. In retirement they enjoyed travels to Sweden, Denmark and Iceland. Pat never tired of life at Rye Harbor, enlivened by surf, boats, gulls, rabbits and the occasional snowy owl.

In addition to her husband, Pat is survived by a brother, Hugh W. Daffin; two daughters, Clare Macdonald (Sebastian Hammer) and Virginia Macdonald; and four grandchildren: Rebecca Schneider, Julie Schneider, Dylan Hammer and Jamie Hammer.

A virtual memorial service will be held on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. For invitations please contact jlockemac@aol.com. Donations in Pat's memory may be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society (<https://www.nationalmssociety.org/Donate>) Assistance with the arrangements was by the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, Hampton.

Cemetery Details

Central Cemetery

20 Central Road
Rye, NH

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 10. 10:00 AM (ET)

Virtual

Tribute Wall



“ *Patricia B. Macdonald*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *I was truly blessed when my home health agency paired me with Pat as her home health caregiver. These last 13 years I cared for Pat, she also became a true friend. I truly enjoyed going to work to give Pat the best care I could give her and to listen to her stories of her life. She had wisdom of life she shared with me and listen and gave her advice what was going n in my life. She always asked about my family. We shared funny stories of our families when they were growing up. We laughed all the time. She always told me how proud she was of her daughters and grandchildren Said she was so blessed to have Such a wonderful husband and Family. I always told her Jim could teach a class on being a husband. Watching how much she was loved by Jim And family was truly amazing. I will miss her soooo much. And miss Jim and the family. She was a true blessing to me for the last 13 years I spent with her. Rest in piece my dear friend ❤️*

Kim Soule - June 10, 2020 at 07:27 PM

PJ

“ To Pat’s family. Over my years of my working with people. None have touched me, the way pat the wife , the mother, the grandmother, and most of all the friends has. She would tell she was maiden of the lord I truly believe she was a special lady with a incredible warm heart. That touch anyone that meet her.i it did with me. I will treasure the memories of the times I spend with her and her loving husband Jim . Pat I will truly miss you and our times together. Jim, Ginna and Claire my heart goes out to you for your loss .

penny jacquin - June 10, 2020 at 11:59 AM



“ The love my grandmother brought into this world will live on far beyond her time. I love and miss her and send all my best to my grandfather, mother, aunt and grand uncle. I love you all and am proud to be a descendant of this strong and faith driven passionate woman.

Rebecca Locke - June 10, 2020 at 11:57 AM



“ I will remember Pat as remarkable cheerfulness in the face of adversity.

Jim Gust

Jim Gust - June 09, 2020 at 12:43 PM

LN

“ We are so sorry for your loss! May her memory be eternal!!
Andrew Nicholas and Family

laura Nicholas - June 08, 2020 at 01:02 PM

DA

“ Dear Jim - Both David and I send our heartfelt sympathy for the loss of your beloved Pat. She truly was a lovely lady and enjoyed her family, friends and all that surrounded her. Our prayers are with you and your family at this time. David and Linda Alves

David and Linda Alves - June 08, 2020 at 09:24 AM

HJ

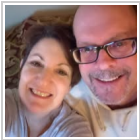
“ Dear Virginia and family of Patricia,

I am so sorry to hear of Pat's passing. I am glad I was able to meet her - I loved her upbeat and generous spirit and enjoyed seeing her facebook postings. I know she will be sorely missed and I send my deepest sympathy to you all.

With love,
Holly Jobe (Rolfe's cousin)



Holly Jobe - June 07, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ Much love to all of you! Pat was a wonderful, warm, loving, and generous person. I am glad to have known her.

Renee

Renee Schneider - June 07, 2020 at 12:41 PM

PJ

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penny jacquin - June 10, 2020 at 11:39 AM

TG

Working with Jim I got to know Pat over many years and she always gave a warm greeting and had a genuine interest in what was going on in our lives. Being a member of Pat's Pals was an honor and Pat and Jim always made it a fun time. I still have a picture of Pat's Pals in my office. From my own experience and from what I heard yesterday Pat was a friend and inspiration for many people. Thank you for inviting me to the memorial it was very, very special

Tom gerrity - June 11, 2020 at 10:50 AM

MG

*Pat was a good listener and a beautiful person both inside and out. Emerson's quote, rendered by Reverend Livingston, described her perfectly and brought tears to my eyes. We met when Clare, and my daughter, Joy, attended the Low-Heywood Thomas School. Clare, one of the brightest students, was one the Maids of Honor at our daughter's wedding. We kept in touch with the family since they moved from Connecticut, and watched it grow through Jim's very eloquent Christmas Cards. I hope Jim keeps sending them. Ira and I are very sad to hear of your great loss.
Marlene Gaylinn*

Marlene Gaylinn - June 11, 2020 at 10:54 AM