



Paula Rae Hollis

November 29, 1958 - October 14, 2022

Paula Rae Hollis, 63, of Vineyard Haven, MA., passed away peacefully, with her family by her side, on Friday, October 14, 2022, following a short and courageous battle with Glioblastoma. She was born November 29, 1958, in Bellefonte, KY, a daughter of Margaret (Horsley) Marshall of Flatwoods, KY, and the late Earl Ray Marshall.

Paula was raised in Greenup, KY, and graduated from Greenup County High School in 1976. She received her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Social Work from the University of Kentucky in 1982 and 2014 respectively.

Most of her adult life was spent in Lexington, KY, where she worked many years as a customer service representative for Computer Color Corporation, before finding her true calling as "Social Worker Paula". This led her to roles at University of Kentucky Healthcare, and KVC Behavioral Healthcare. In 2016 she relocated to New England to be near her sister. Her daughter, Kirsten, joined her a year later. This transition broadened Paula's career to include jobs at Compassionate Care Hospice in Londonderry, NH, Village MD, and DMC Primary Care, both in Derry, NH. She also worked part-time in Case Management at Exeter Hospital, in Exeter, NH. During her time in New Hampshire, she completed her LICSW, an accomplishment that she was very proud of.

While in Lexington, Paula became heavily involved in Refugee Settlement Missions, which opened her heart and doors to becoming "American Mom" to Peter, Philip, and John Manga, brothers from the Democratic Republic Of The Congo. Her love and support for them spanned through middle school, high school, college, and beyond. She dedicated her life not only to the boys, but to the entire refugee community, where she worked tirelessly as an advocate within the school system and various organizations to generate support, money, and material donations needed to integrate them into a new culture while helping them maintain their own cultural identity. She was the #1 fan on the soccer field, and the keeper of the famous "snack box", that could be found located outside her door. Everyone adored and appreciated "Miss Paula".

In September 2020, Paula moved to Martha's Vineyard, where she assumed roles as a LICSW, followed by Behavioral Health Manager at Martha's Vineyard Hospital. While Paula often joked that her sister "dropped her off at summer camp, and never came back to get her", Paula treasured her time on the island, where she enjoyed many walks on the beach, hikes in Menemsha Hills, and dinners out with friends. She thrived in her work there and truly impacted the lives of many.

Though Paula's life was cut way too short, her legacy will live on for many years to come. Her friend network was endless, and everyone who came in contact with her was truly made the better for it. She loved life to the fullest and was infinitely proud of her children and grandchildren. She had just returned from a 2-week trip to England where she embodied the role of "Mimi" for Addison and Isla. We will all miss her crazy humor, her boundless energy, her radiant personality, her generosity, her laughter, her strong faith, her love for the ocean and all things Kentucky, and most of all, her devotion to her family.

In addition to her mother, she leaves behind two daughters, Ashley Parker and her husband Dan, and their children Addison and Isla of Preston, East Yorkshire, Kirsten Hollis and her partner, Clayton (HB) Jervis of Exeter, NH, her brother, Jon Marshall and his partner Penny Tharp of Catlettsburg, KY, her sister, Julie Brooks and her husband Ted of Hampton Falls, NH, and 2 nieces, Morgan and Lily McGinnis. In addition to her father, Paula was predeceased by a sister, Johanna Lynn Marshall.

Celebrations of her life will take place from 4 - 8 PM Saturday, October 29, 2022 at Harper Hall. 177 N. Upper Street, Lexington, KY, 4 - 8 PM Wednesday, November 2, 2022 at 92 Main Street, Tisbury, MA and from 4-8 P.M. Friday, November 4, 2022 at the Brooks residence at 203 Kensington Road, Hampton Falls, NH. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend. In lieu of traditional remembrances, consider becoming involved in your local refugee ministry. Assistance with the arrangements and cremation was by the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, Hampton, NH.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life

OCT 29. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Harper Hall
177 N. Upper Street
Lexington, KY

Celebration of Life

NOV 2. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Residence
92 Main Street
Tisbury, MA 02568

Celebration of Life

NOV 4. 4:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Brooks Residence
203 Kensington Road
Hampton Falls, NH 03844

Tribute Wall

EL

“ Paula was very special to my family , a loving , joyful spirit , kind and patient. A truly gifted social worker. My daughter loved her and Paula was a natural with her ! Sending condolences to her friends and family , she will be missed here on the island and by us and we will always remember her and all the light she brought to us and our community. I am so glad to have had the privilege to have met such a remarkable soul. Love , Esther and Genevieve (age 10)

Esther Laiacona - December 10, 2022 at 08:42 PM

MF

“ Paula would have been 64 today. Such a loss!



Margaret Foster - November 29, 2022 at 04:47 PM

AA

“ Was so very sad to hear of Paula’s passing. Was delighted when she became my counselor to the MVH and we would spend an hour a week together and got to know her. We laughed and sometimes cried, and I am forever grateful for her commitment to helping others. See you on the other side 💜

Annette Anthony - November 12, 2022 at 01:52 PM

JB

Thank you for your message Annette. It means so much to our family to know that Paula impacted the lives of so many. ❤️

Julie Brooks - November 13, 2022 at 06:13 PM

EL

“ *Ellen lit a candle in memory of Paula Rae Hollis*

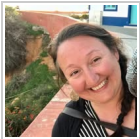


Ellen - November 02, 2022 at 08:32 AM

EL

Paula brought the light back into my life. She will never be forgotten.

Ellen - November 02, 2022 at 08:33 AM



“ *What a pleasure it was to work with Paula at MVH this past year. She cared so completely for her patients and will be missed behind measure. Wishing the family peace and strength in the days ahead. My condolences, Amanda*

Amanda White - October 25, 2022 at 10:49 PM

MF

“ From our time working down the hall from each other back in the 1980s when she was my sales rep at Computer Color Corporation, to our time boosting the Blue Devils and managing the Henry Clay High School Boys and Girls Soccer yearbooks (2005-2011) while also helping our African refugee families assimilate, to transitioning through so many different careers in recent years, to critiquing *Dancing with the Stars* via FaceTime, to being American fans of the British royal family (drinking tea and watching royal weddings via FaceTime!), to dealing with aging relatives and breast cancer, comparing notes on vacations to Oak Island, NC, moral support while raising her two girls and my two boys and always supporting our Kentucky Wildcats as part of Big Blue Nation, Paula was my dear friend, constant cheerleader, close confidante and encouraging life coach. Always just a cell phone call or text away, even when she was often out of cell service range walking on the beaches of Martha's Vineyard in recent years. Trying to hit a moving target to catch up with her on her flying trips back to Kentucky. Living vicariously through her perpetual travels and adventures was a delight of my life. How to move forward without regular infusions of her hilarious stories, situations, and sense of humor remains a mystery to me... her last text with me started with a picture of a hen that had been chasing her in England while she babysat with her beloved granddaughters. She wove her spell of good cheer and a positive outlook over all who came within her many spheres of influence. The world is a much more mundane and pedestrian place without her. She will be well and truly missed for many years to come.



Margaret Foster - October 21, 2022 at 11:43 AM

DC

“ Paula was the ONLY OTHER University of Kentucky fan at Martha's Vineyard Hospital! As a proud UK grad myself, I loved to chat with her about all things Big Blue Nation. She was kind and full of life, and I will miss her beautiful smile and daily enthusiasm. Praying for your family (and a winning UK basketball season in her memory!)

David T Caron - October 21, 2022 at 09:11 AM

KH

I believe she mentioned you to me a couple of times. She loved all things UK and Kentucky bourbon. Go Cats!

kirsten Hollis - October 22, 2022 at 02:02 PM

CH

“ I met Paula when she started at Derry Medical Center in NH. I remember her distinctive Kentucky accent and her positive spirit. We shared many patients and they all couldn't wait for their weekly sessions with her. I remember when she made special accommodations for someone with financial constraints so she could continue to see her. Paula was always such an advocate for those who needed it the most. She will certainly be missed.

Christine Hand - October 19, 2022 at 06:24 PM

PJ

“ Pam Jones lit a candle in memory of Paula Rae Hollis



Pam Jones - October 19, 2022 at 10:52 AM

LH

“ I worked with Paula at Compassionate Care. She was such a pleasure to work with. I love her sense of humor. Because of Paula, I now understand that “Bless your heart” isn’t always a good thing!! Rest in peace my friend, til we meet again! ❤️

Lauren Hayward - October 18, 2022 at 09:27 PM

MC

“ Margaret Greathouse Claus lit a candle in memory of Paula Rae Hollis



Margaret Greathouse Claus - October 17, 2022 at 07:58 PM

JM

“ I know that your hearts were aching as you wrote this. The words are beautiful, a true reflection of Paula. I am thankful for and a better person because of our formative years at high school (Greenup County) together. Paula was genuinely a good person. Her work here on earth has touched the lives of many. Rest In Peace Paula. 🙏❤️

Jackie Fannin Miracle - October 17, 2022 at 07:00 PM

LP

“ Beautiful words for a beautiful lady - Paula will certainly missed this side of the pond! ❤️❤️
❤️



Leah Parker - October 17, 2022 at 11:11 AM