



Kathleen M. "Kathy" Newman

May 1, 1963 - June 8, 2024

Kathleen "Kathy" Mary Newman, 61, of Easthampton, passed away unexpectedly Saturday June 8, 2024, at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Born May 1, 1963, in Holyoke, to the late Dorothy "Dottie" (LaBarge) Newman, Kathy was the youngest of six kids. Kathy attended Northampton public schools, where she was a star athlete on the field hockey and softball fields. Her athleticism and talent won her numerous accolades and awards. As a natural caretaker and a born leader, Kathy was drawn to a life of service in nursing. She first became an LPN, then an RN, and later pursued her Master's in Nursing and ARPN. Her decades of experience were not only used to provide expert patient-focused care but also to educate the next generation of nurses, leaving a lasting impact on the field. Kathy was a woman of many passions. She was a strong advocate for her community, always standing up against injustice. Kathy met the love of her life, Ramona "Moe" Madzunovic, in high school. Together, they built a home in Easthampton and welcomed their treasured daughter, Kadyrose. Their home was not just a sanctuary of love and laughter, but a testament to the deep love and joy Kathy brought to her family, friends, and community. Her love for her family, especially her daughter Kady, was unwavering. In her free time, Kathy found joy in nature, often taking 'forest baths' with her dogs. She also enjoyed spending time with her friends and family, antiquing, gardening, cheering on Moe at softball games, and going on adventures with

her beloved sister Melissa. Her love of life was infectious, as was her sense of humor.

She leaves behind her partner of 40 years, Moe Madzunovic, their daughter Kadyrose LaBarge Newman, her siblings Melissa Miller (Charles), Brion Newman (Bobby), and Todd Newman, her uncle Richard Labarge and his wife Marianne, and numerous nieces, nephews, grandnieces, grandnephews, cousins, and friends.

Besides her cherished mother, Dottie, she was also predeceased by her siblings Jamie and Cyrus.

A Celebration of Kathy's Life will be held on Sunday, July 7 from 10 AM to 8 PM at Maines Field in Florence. Friends and family are encouraged to pack a lunch/snacks, bring a cooler with a beverage of choice, and a chair.

DROZDAL FUNERAL HOME OF NORTHAMPTON has been entrusted with her services.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the nursing program at Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, 174 Brush Hill Ave., W. Springfield, MA 01089, to carry on Kathy's legacy.

For more information, or to leave the family a personal condolence, please visit Drozdalfuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Celebration

JUL 7. 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM.

Maines Field

Tribute Wall

SK

“ Sharon Kimble purchased the Simply Elegant Sp
athiphyllum for the family of Kathleen M. "Kathy"
Newman.



Sharon Kimble - July 06, 2024 at 08:24 PM

KC

“ Kathleen C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen M.
"Kathy" Newman.

Kathleen C. - July 03, 2024 at 05:32 PM

LR

“ Kathleen and I solved the mysteries of the world over our coffee and
pastry selections at Barnes and Noble. She paid last time and I was
looking forward to reciprocating and now I can't that bum. My world
will never be the same. Women like her are few and far between.
My deep condolences to her family.

Leonor Rodriguez - July 03, 2024 at 08:33 AM

DA

“ *My sincerest sympathy regarding the passing of Kathy my friend and colleague at LPVEC. Kathy had a spark of enthusiasm and passion that was genuine and sincere. She spoke raw and honest about what she believed in and that I admired her for. I will miss bumping into her in the halls, her laughter and friendship. So glad to have met her and been her friend. God bless her family I will pray for comfort and peace for all of you as you maneuver the grief of losing your loved one. Debbie Ashe*

Debbie Ashe - June 25, 2024 at 12:36 PM

ML

“ Kathy was the love of our family our loving niece Kathy took care of her Uncle Rich for almost 4 years, she was his Health Proxy and had the strong voice with the medical doctors and worked very closely with them and even the surgeons to make sure her uncle had the best of care. Kathy and I had the strong voice which she guided me working hard and tirelessly when she could not attend a scheduled surgery at Mass General in Boston. , our niece Eillen took us to Mass General in Boston which was such an honor to have her with us. due to Kathy teaching her students. Kathy had such a great time with her uncle walking in the woods , and to the zoo, and eating out, and talking to us about her life and her love of the family. She told her uncle many times how she loved him and I for all we have done to hear her challenges in her life. Some things were so personal and confidential . Her uncle was the last of the LaBarge family and she would mention that to him a lot. We had several get togethers with her family during the holidays such beautiful memories of our niece Kathy. She was her Uncle Rich's Angel and he misses her dearly. and our family. He tells every one she was his angel and she was taken away from all of us. Too young to pass away. She just loved her daughter Katie Rose and we do too she was the love of her life and very protective of her. Her love was such a leader of protecting Kathy, and we all love her also. Melissa her sister was her love of her life and she made sure Kathy was well taken care for, Melissa was always there for her sister Kathy and Melissa was always there for her Uncle Rich Kathy you are now with God and he sure had those plans for you to make sure your number 1 job was to take care of the sick angels and our love ones. Love you and miss you Kathy. Auntie Marianne, Uncle Rich and Chris , Rich Jr, Sharon, Isobella, and Thaddeus LaBarge. . .

Marianne LaBarge - June 18, 2024 at 07:56 AM

ES

“ I only worked with Kathy for 2 years but what an impression she made! Our students fell in love with her, she was a "mom" to them with her brutal honesty and big heart. Such a wonderful teacher and colleague, she will be missed tremendously.

Erica Soares

Erica Soares - June 17, 2024 at 11:58 AM

AV

Mrs. Newman was the mom of class of 2027,2026,2025,2024. She was a great and loving teacher to all,we all are going to miss you so much - Autumn Ventulett

Autumn Ventulett - June 18, 2024 at 11:53 AM

AS

“ So sorry for loss. Kathy will missed by so many people she was a wonderful person.

Angela Silvestri



Angela Silvestri - June 17, 2024 at 10:04 AM

NW

“ Dear Melissa and the Newman family, Kathy came into our lives when our dad was diagnosed with lung cancer in 2011. She was a bundle of smiles, energy and personality! Dad adored her. She even visited with him at my Whately home, and it was a wonderful surprise and visit for dad. We will always hold her in our hearts and be grateful for the gift of getting to know her. The Custeau Daughters.

Nancy Wilson - June 15, 2024 at 04:11 PM

MM

“ Moe and family, I am sorry to hear of a loss of such an incredible person and beloved by everyone. Growing up in Baystate and Hamp were the best years and to be treasured forever. May you find peace in the coming days as you relive the happiest of memories.

Mary Wiseman Malinowski - June 15, 2024 at 08:46 AM

AH

“ My daughters, Lauren & Kaitlyn, and I fondly remember Kathy, Moe & Kadyrose from our Girl Scout days and Hatfield car pools. I am so very sorry to learn of her passing.
A light gone out to soon in our world. Gid bless you. Amy Hyde

Amy Hyde - June 14, 2024 at 01:20 PM

AB

“ She was the best teacher I ever had. Such a mentor an inspiration and incredible soul. My love and prayers go out to everyone in her family and all of her friends as we are dealing with this hard time together❤️



Alexsya Brace - June 13, 2024 at 08:27 PM

AV

“ Autumn Ventulett lit a candle in memory of Kathleen M. "Kathy" Newman



Autumn Ventulett - June 13, 2024 at 08:51 AM

BM

“ There are too many memories to be able to share just one. Kathy was such a special person. She was a huge part of my early life here in Northampton and helped me find my place in this community. She was a fierce competitor and I took great joy from being her teammate and later her competitor. She was caring, compassionate, an advocate for those who could not advocate for themselves. This world has lost such a vibrant soul, but she will live on in the hearts of so many people. I hold her whole family, but especially Mo, in my heart and my thoughts.

Bonnie

Bonnie May - June 13, 2024 at 08:49 AM

JB

Kathy was such an inspiration. Simply one of the best nurses I've ever worked with. And she was so funny. Kathy always put her patients first. I so admired her advocacy, her fierceness, her love of life and laughter. What a loss. Sending love from this side of the world, Jen Boyd

Jennifer Boyd - June 15, 2024 at 05:13 AM

AV

“ One memory I have with Mrs. Newman is from the first day I got into health class. She gave me a huge hug and said, "The next 4 years are going to be great with you in health." I love and miss you, Mrs. Newman.

-Autumn Ventulett

Autumn Ventulett - June 13, 2024 at 08:48 AM



“ Drozdal Funeral Home lit a candle in memory of Kathleen M. "Kathy" Newman



Drozdal Funeral Home - June 12, 2024 at 04:12 PM