



Virginia "Ginny" (MacQueen) Ford

July 13, 1935 - October 23, 2021

Virginia MacQueen Ford (Ginny), age 86, passed away peacefully surrounded by family at the home of her daughter Kathy Ford in Worthington, MA, where she had been living since April 2019. She is survived by Kathy and her son Rob (Samantha) Ford; and five grandchildren Molly, Ben, Charlie, Luke, and Hugh.

Born in Watkins Glen, NY and raised in Rochester, she lived and raised her family in Brighton before moving permanently to South Bristol in 1984. Ginny received her bachelor's degree from Beaver College in 1956, where she was President of the Student Government and on the Board of Trustees.

Amid master's coursework in Urban Studies at the University of Rochester in the late 1970's, she was pulled into her first entrepreneurial venture which became Ford Research Services in 1980 and was acquired several years later. Along the way, she was a leader in myriad community organizations and businesses. She was President of the Junior League of Rochester from 1968-1976, a moderator for the Arbitration Association, and served on the Boards of the Chamber of Commerce, Rochester Philharmonic, GEVA, the National Women's Hall of Fame, and the Curtis Burns Corporation. In 1982 she won the Athena Award as Woman of the Year. Her acceptance speech for the award was entitled, "You can have it all, you just can't have it all at once."

That title embodied Ginny and her approach to life. Her talents and passion for ongoing learning inspired all who spent time with her. Devoted to her family, both immediate and extended, she will always be remembered for orchestrating the annual Christmas party. Accompanying on piano and guitar, she encouraged all the cousins to perform solo and group numbers for the show. She read several books a month her entire life, traveled extensively, and found time to design and cultivate beautiful gardens. In her sixties, she taught herself pottery, built a studio dedicated to the craft, and with her characteristic generosity, invited friends and family to share her passion for making beautiful bowls and vessels.

An equestrian in her youth, she picked up golf and skiing later in life, and then channeled her energy into completing challenges such as Outward Bound's Wilderness Survival Training in 1989 and the Walk Across England in 1993.

She led while encouraging others, was an inspiration for all she engaged with, and shared her unflagging spirit offered in love.

Her memorial service will be held in Bristol/Naples NY in mid-summer 2022, details to be announced. Interment will be at Coye Cemetery at that time.

DROZDAL FUNERAL HOME of Northampton, MA has been entrusted with her services. For more information, or to leave the family a personal condolence, please visit Drozdalfuneralhome.com.

Tribute Wall

MO

“ Dearest Kathy and Rob I was so heartbroken to hear of Ginny death I also just lost Dick on Oct 26th, maybe your Mom and Dad and Dick are together watching over all of us. Your mom was always an inspiration to me, both as a career woman a Mom and a friend...she was a person I could talk to her about anything. She was knowledgeable in so many areas and could carry on a conversation with anyone, there was no one beneath her or above her. I could write a book on Ginny she was a classy lady, I am so glad she had the time with you Kathy, she was so very proud of you and Rob and of course her grandchildren. My love to your family...Miche Olney

miche olney - November 02, 2021 at 11:22 AM

MA

“ Was so surprised to hear of your Moms passing. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Your family has always held a place in my heart.
Would love to reconnect with both of you, Rob and Kathy. I am not sure how to do that though.
My email address is: meadams@rochester.rr.com
Mary Adams

Mary Adams - October 30, 2021 at 03:10 PM

JT

“ *Kathy and Rob*

So much to say and so many thoughts but will simply say how blessed you and your children have been to have this woman as your Mom and grandmother. Her pride in both of you and love for your families was her foundation along with the devotion of your amazing dad. You are lucky in your life to find someone who simply wants you to shine as brightly as you can and for me this was Ginny. Always believing in me and always celebrating our small little triumphs and consoling all of us at Ford Research when we needed it. The gift of her mentor ship her friendship and her love for me was just that simply such a gift. And the double blessing of bringing your Dad into my life as well. I loved them both so much and even in this sadness I am rejoicing they are together. I look forward to the spring and celebrating the life of this remarkable woman! Sending love and light. Julie Donohue Thaney

Julie Thaney - October 28, 2021 at 09:44 AM