



Ms. Nancy L. Chandonnet

July 19, 1942 - May 4, 2014

Easton:

Nancy Lau Chandonnet, former co-owner of a Maryland Manpower Temporary Services franchise, and an avid sailor, died of pancreatic cancer on May 4 in St. Michaels. She was 71 years old.

Ms. Chandonnet was born in Baltimore on July 19, 1942 to Dr. Irvin Martin Lau, Jr. and Eleanor Talson Fountain and lived most of her childhood in Reisterstown and Pikesville. She attended Hannah More Academy where she demonstrated her strong athletic skills on the varsity field hockey and basketball teams and served as senior class president graduating in 1960.

She went on to attend the University of Maryland in College Park and was a member of the Alpha Omicron Pi sorority. In 1963, she married John Chandonnet. The couple moved to Laurel and purchased a small one-office temporary services company which they expanded into a 12-office operation that ringed the suburban Maryland region with 1,200 employees. In the mid-1970's, Ms. Chandonnet also sold real estate for the Russell T. Baker & Company and Annapolis Properties.

Ms. Chandonnet lived in the Annapolis area for nearly 40 years. Her love for sailing led her to compete in, and win many races on the Chesapeake Bay and cruise the Atlantic from Trinidad to Newfoundland and through the Adriatic. Many summers were spent with family and friends sailing in Martha's Vineyard and Maine.

Ms. Chandonnet moved to the Easton in 1999. She was very proud of her Eastern Shore family lineage dating from the 17th century and was an active and dedicated member of the General Perry Benson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She served as First Vice Regent from 2009-2012. She was the originator of numerous campaigns to bring supplies and gifts to comfort hospitalized veterans. She also volunteered her time to help wounded veterans from Walter Reed Army Medical Center

and their families enjoy a day of sailing on the Miles River through the Vet Sail program.

She was a devoted and caring friend, mother and grandmother and will be remembered by her two grandsons for her chocolate chip cookies and toy soldiers in her kitchen.

Survivors include her daughter Bridget DeSimone, her son-in-law Mark DeSimone and two grandsons, Willem and Luca all of Washington, DC, her former husband of 49 years, John R. Chandonnet of Easton, four cousins Alexander D. Fountain, Jr. and W. Thomas Fountain both of Oxford, MD, James M. Fountain of Portland, OR, Jeffrey E. Fountain of Denver, CO and friend Jon LeTowt of St. Michaels.

A memorial service will be held at Trinity Cathedral on Goldsborough Street in Easton, Monday, May 19, 2014 at 11 a.m. A private inurnment service will be at Spring Hill Cemetery in Easton. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in her memory to Talbot Hospice Foundation, 586 Cynwood Dr, Easton, MD 21601. Arrangements are being handled by Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam in Easton.

Cemetery

Spring Hill Cemetery

Easton, MD,

Comments



“ Nancy touched the hearts of so many. Her outstanding qualities were very evident early on as a young student at HMA. She was a natural, excelling in all that she did. Her friendliness was endearing, her team spirit was infectious, and her leadership ability impressive. More than 50 years have passed since I went to school with Nancy. From what I have recently read, she stayed true to all that she was in school. I wish to honor this lovely lady that lived a life of caring, contributing and loving.

Helen Leonard Frey

Helen Frey - May 18, 2014 at 07:48 PM



“ Lost touch with Nancy, SHOCKED to read her obituary. Words are inadequate in sharing the sense of loss we feel.
You are all in our prayers.
Helene and Gus Leanos

Helene Leanos - May 18, 2014 at 11:11 AM



“ Nancy was so warm from the moment I met her- Such a bright spirit- kind and smart...I'll never forget my first homemade chipped beef experience- Delicious Nancy!! We shared some good talks...
You will be dearly missed and never forgotten. May you rest in peace and enjoy the next journey!!!
Juliet LeTowt

Juliet LeTowt - May 18, 2014 at 09:42 AM



“ Nancy was a daughter, a bright-fun student and a multiple graduate. She was a wife, a co-owner of a business and employer. A loving Mother, a volunteer in schools, organizations and many causes close to her heart. She was a home owner and a beautiful gardener. She had many friends in all corners of life. She had a special person she cared for and cared for her. Nancy had many qualities, leadership skills and talents. I was fortunate to call her my friend and will remember her fondly in my memory and heart. Thanks Nancy for sharing. KATHY Shay, HMA, Class of 1960

Kathy Shay - May 18, 2014 at 08:48 AM



“ It was a pleasure to get to know and spend time with Nan and the rest of the family. You where always a great friend to me. Sorry I will miss the memorial service but we have a conflict with a graduation. Fredrik Salvesen

Fredrik - May 15, 2014 at 07:32 AM



“ Jeanne Ron Armstrong is following this tribute.

Jeanne Ron Armstrong - May 13, 2014 at 06:28 PM



“ I flew with you as far as God would allow and then had to let you go. Hopefully the rest of the trip was swift and comfortable. I know that once you flung free of your painful earthbound trappings the Nancy that we all knew and loved so much was once again in our hearts, mind and soul as a free spirited friend and companion. You always were a leader Nancy - from the time I first met you in the early grades at Hannah More Academy. Yes, as we all did, we went on to live active and productive lives but the roots were formed all those many years ago. You, my dear friend, with your fine wit, sensible outlook, kind heart and ability to bring order out of chaos led us all down a worthy path and one that we still follow to this day. You set the example and made us all proud to call you friend. I know Miss Coleman is even smiling and glad to have known you even though I am sure we gave her a gray hair or two! I know I am not alone when I say we are going to miss you. I am so glad I got to speak with you and reminisce about old friends and happenings - that was such a pleasure and one which I will always treasure. You will always be one of a kind. As I sit here typing the tears are streaming - I know you are in a better place. I also know you are not lost to us - I know that every breeze that caresses my cheek is you smiling down on all of us and still leading us forward. As long as someone speaks your name you are never truly gone.

This is an old Native American poem that lets me know you are always near...perhaps others can find comfort in it too...

I am a thousand winds that blow,
I am the diamond glints on snow,
I am the sunlight on opened grain,
I am the gentle Autumn rain.
When you awaken in the morning hush,
I am the swift uplifting rush
of quiet birds in circled flight.
I am the soft stars that shine at night.
Do not think of me as gone -
though this day is done I am with you still in each new dawn.
Jeannie

Jeannie Armstrong - May 13, 2014 at 05:32 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Willem and Luca DeSimone - May 13, 2014 at 01:12 PM



“ 4 files added to the album New Album Name



Jon - May 12, 2014 at 10:27 PM



“ I did not get to know Nancy during my one year as a sophomore at HMA. I attribute this to my extreme shyness, and I now see it as my loss. However, I did see her, and get to know her better, at our 50th class reunion in 2010.

Ironically, we became good friends, only during the past few months, when I would send her cards and emails. She always thanked me for my cards and commented on her favorites.

During our severe winter, I fed my deer regularly from my deck that faces a forest. I would write Nancy about my deer, describing how they would look directly in my eyes with a thankful expression. And, how they would ring the front doorbell with their noses if they were hungry between meals.

Nancy always responded, and even sent me a wonderful website about deer and their feeding habits. What I will always remember was Nancy's response when I was romanticizing my deer relationship. I told her how I had even dreamed about the deer, and wondered if they sometimes dreamed about me. Nancy's response was curt and to the point:

"No, they are dreaming about FOOD!" Her response, just as she herself, will always make me smile.

Carla Shuford, HMA Class of 1960

Carla Shuford - May 12, 2014 at 12:34 PM



“ I met Nan when I worked for her at Manpower. She was by far the most kind hearted person I have ever met. She was always concerned about all her employees. I would sometimes see her at Grauls Market in West Annapolis after they moved to the Eastern Shore, she would always ask about our family. One time when my husband and I were at dinner, Nan and Jan were there also. We went to leave, our waiter informed us our dinner was taken care of you our friends. One of the many kind things she would do. I remember the many times She would go to Rookies down town and bring everyone a treat. I have never been associated with anyone so kind and caring. I am sure she will be missed by many. Jan and Bridget I will keep you in my prayers. Just remember all the happy times with Nan will make each day a little better. So sorry for the lost of you loved one.
Sue Murchake and family.

Sue Murchake - May 10, 2014 at 03:29 PM



“ Nan and I were friends when we were young mothers. Watching my son and Bridget learn to swim, climb higher than they should have and giggle and laugh was a real joy. I am so sorry to hear that Nan has passed away. Although we lost touch we did get to see our first children see each other as adults. Quite and amazing thing. God bless her family, Jan and Bridget and her grandchildren....I know you will all miss her and her wonderful smile and humor! Lots of love, Lynne and Michael McCrudden

Lynne McCrudden - May 10, 2014 at 02:40 PM



“ Nancy was there at the birth of our first daughter, Mary. Nancy was a wonderful lady, full of kindness and a great heart. She will truly be missed. (Nat & Liz LeTowt)



Nat LeTowt - May 10, 2014 at 10:13 AM



“ 1 file added to the album New Album Name



Bobbee Larsson - May 10, 2014 at 07:49 AM



“ Nancy is a dear friend of Kim and I -- she has been our neighbor for 4+ years and she will be missed. God bless. Jim and Kim Shellem

Jim Shellem - May 09, 2014 at 04:35 PM



“ The world will seem like a lonely place without Nancy. I will miss her!

Patricia Lundgren Wiener
HMA Class of 1960

Patricia Lundgren Wiener - May 09, 2014 at 12:11 PM



“ I remember Nancy as a vivacious, fun, athletic and charming young woman when we were classmates at Hannah More Academy, class of 1960. My great regret is that we didn't see more of each other after graduation. But my memories of her bring a smile to my face as I recall so many great times with her at HMA. My prayers are for her family as they deal with her passing. Tunia Harrison Hyland

Tunia Harrison Hyland - May 11, 2014 at 11:23 AM



“ Our family is heartbroken about Nan. As an adolescent and young adult I idolized Nan. Always fun to be with, stunning lots of energy. Our families were very connected while living in Round Bay. We all had many adventures (and some mis-adventures) sailing and sharing time together. Though time and growth separated us I've never let go of that initial bond. It could have be years between times we saw each other but that never mattered. My memories are deep seated and will live with me forever. We loved you and will cherish the memories of you. Wiezie Lynch and Family

Louise (Wiezie) Lynch - May 09, 2014 at 09:53 AM



“ 4 files added to the tribute wall



Jon - May 09, 2014 at 08:32 AM



“ I Am so sorry to hear the passing of Nancy..I loved her!!! Nancy was one of the first people I met when I transferd to Hannah More academy..funny..charming..witty..a friend to all.always smiling.. laughing and extending her hand to all in need..her spirit and enthusiasm will live on in all that had the pleasure to share her amazing personality and outlook on life

Sandra sindall - May 09, 2014 at 05:47 AM



“ I am so sorry to hear of Nancy's passing. I met Nancy about a year ago , when she stopped by my antique store in Easton. She and I became instant friends. She was so kind as to give me a tour of her home and antiques. May you rest in peace Nancy.

John Dodson - May 09, 2014 at 11:06 AM