



## Ann Linhard Pearce

January 24, 1955 - October 31, 2021

Ann Linhard Pearce, 66, of Easton, Maryland, died surrounded by her family on Sunday, October 31, 2021, more than seventeen years after her initial diagnosis of metastatic breast cancer.

Ann was born on January 24, 1955 in Baltimore, Maryland, to her late parents John “Jack” Linhard and Clarissa Jones Linhard. She grew up in Baltimore and married her husband, Garrett “Gary” Pearce, in 1981.

Ann’s lifelong passion was teaching reading to children, especially to children who benefit from specialized programs and techniques. She earned a bachelor’s degree in special education from Hood College in Frederick and a master’s degree in reading at Salisbury State University, which led to a fulfilling career as a resources teacher and learning consultant in Wicomico County and Northern New Jersey. She then completed certifications to become a teacher-trainer and Literacy Specialist for Wilson Language Training. In her nearly 20-year career with Wilson, she traveled around the country to model reading lessons and coach teachers. She was especially instrumental in Wilson’s initial work in Washington D.C. as the lead Literacy Specialist when the successful program first began in the District.

Ann loved to travel, try new recipes, and plan family gatherings. She enjoyed exploring the Eastern Shore and Delaware beaches on foot or on bikes with Gary. Ann particularly loved hosting family and friends at the family’s summer cottage in Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania. In her later years, Ann was especially dedicated to spending time with her four grandsons at every

opportunity.

Ann is survived by her husband of 40 years, Gary; her daughter and son-in-law Carolyn Pearce Small and Taylor Small of Asheville, NC; her son and daughter-in-law John Pearce and Lauren Girio Pearce of Mt. Airy, MD; her four grandsons, Alex and Grant Small and Garrett and Samuel Pearce; her brother, Joe Linhard and wife Sandy; her brother Bill Linhard and wife Cheryl. She will additionally be mourned by her in-laws, an aunt, cousins, and several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Ann is preceded in death by her brother, John Linhard, and her sister, Mary Linhard.

An open house gathering to celebrate Ann's life and share memories with her family will be held on Saturday, November 27, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, Van Lennep Auditorium, in St. Michael's, Maryland.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in Ann's memory to METAvivor at [www.metavivor.org](http://www.metavivor.org) or the International Dyslexia Association at <https://dyslexiaida.org/>.

For online condolences, please visit [www.fhnfuneralhome.com](http://www.fhnfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

NOV 27. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM.

Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum  
St. Michaels, MD

# Tribute Wall



“ *Ann brought Wilson Reading to the Kinnelon Public Schools special education programs and we were blessed to have her. As their Director of Special Services I came to rely on Ann for her sage advice, ability to connect with teachers, and her instructional skills. She also instituted the Foundations program for our general education primary school kids. Several teachers at Kinnelon have carried on her wonderful work with students as Level 1 trained Wilson specialists. I was so very sorry to learn of her passing. I was trying to reconnect for some additional consultation when I found this sad news. My belated sympathies to her family. Ann was a consummate professional an a wonderful person.*

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**Dr. Richard Maizell** - June 30, 2025 at 05:45 PM



“ *Ann Linhard Pearce*

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October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Ann Linhard Pearce*

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January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Ann Linhard Pearce*

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January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Ann Linhard Pearce.



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November 22, 2021 at 12:56 PM



“ To Joe and Bill,  
*I first met Ann as a newly married woman. We first lived in Rodgers Forge and Chris and Jack, Ann's parents, were our next door neighbors. I remember bending Chris' ear for newly married woman advice and shortly after our daughter, Stacey, was born I bent her ear even more asking for first time mother advice ! Chris was most patient and available. I asked Ann to babysit many times and found her to be so adorable, and playful with our daughter. On occasion, if we happened to be outside at the same time and I was with our daughter, Ann would walk over asking to hold her. She would do so, coo to her and then look over and just smile. I found Ann to be most loving, attentive to her siblings and respectful of her parents. She will most definitely be missed by many. So, sail on, Ann, and hold and hug those lost, sweet babies now in Heaven with you.*  
Regards,  
Joanne Seward

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Joanne Seward - November 15, 2021 at 09:12 AM

MH

“ 1 file added to the album Annie



Michelle Hurney - November 07, 2021 at 10:45 AM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Ann Linhard Pearce.



November 07, 2021 at 10:38 AM

MI

“ 5 files added to the album Annie



Michelle - November 07, 2021 at 10:24 AM

MH

*My high school buddy and college roommate---You were so good to me. I love you dearly. Oh my Ann-What are we going to do without your loyal, loving and gracious presence? I will miss you--very, very much. I hope you are at peace and smiling at these photos.*

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**Michelle Hurney** - November 07, 2021 at 10:29 AM

“ We are grief-stricken to receive this news, knowing what a treasured life Ann is to her wonderful family and friends, including ourselves. Our hearts go out to Gary whom we know has carried great love and concern and hope for his wife. And to her children to whom she nurtured such successful relationships rooted in love and respect for their individual selves.

*I had the great blessing of knowing Ann as an educator, mentor and friend. I was in my late 20's when we worked together, and she with college-age children. She was gracious, respectful, tolerant, forgiving. Despite the pressure of time and demand for service, she saw to the needs of the individual student and took careful measures to adjust and customize the approach to those needs. Ann insisted on quality and meeting the needs of each individual child.*

*She afforded me opportunities to learn and to grow in my position. She did so with genuine respect and encouragement. After our work together, I sought her guidance on several occasions over the years which she was quick and generous to provide. She maintained friendly contact and communication with me though distance and circumstance separated us.*

*She was devoted to her work, but family was clearly first in her heart. She balanced work and family and friends with commitment and calm. Gathering with her at a restaurant was sure to be filled with laughter. Gathering with her in her home was welcoming, warm and delicious. She prepared food for guests with enjoyment, skill and ease. Her home and wardrobe reflected her refined, artful style. She knew how to pick a good restaurant just as well as she could pick the right gift. I have always remembered her saying to me, after surprising me with a beautiful platter, that she likes to pick out gifts which she would enjoy receiving. That sentiment has always been touching to me because it shows her heart, her generosity, her thoughtfulness. Our hand-painted blue crab platter is still a treasured item in our kitchen. And you, Ann, are a treasured soul in*

*our hearts.*

*We know you live on as an eternal being. We know you are and will be reunited with your loved ones.*

*With great love and sincere condolences to the Linhard and Pearce families,*

*Emily & Christian Hardy*

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**Emily Hardy** - November 04, 2021 at 12:53 PM

MC

“ *I am eternally grateful for “Miss Ann” (as my kids called her). She was like an angel sent from Heaven to help them learn to read.. now heaven has truly gained a special angel. Her kindness and compassion and belief in my kids ability to learn will never be forgotten. Their lives would be so very different if she had not been there when they were younger. Sincere condolences to her wonderful family. I will always be grateful to have known such a wonderful lady. Thank you again Ann from a grateful mother!*

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**mary camper** - November 04, 2021 at 10:44 AM

CT

“ *Seems like yesterday that my friend since childhood called to say his wife Ann had received news that would affect both their lives in the years to come. 17 years later my memory of Ann is of a wife, mother and grandmother that lived those next 17 years with passion, strength, dignity and a mental toughness that I can only envy. Ann will be missed and always remembered for the way she lived her life day in and day out to the fullest regardless of the circumstance.*

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**Charlie Timmons** - November 04, 2021 at 08:48 AM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Ann Linhard Pearce.*



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November 04, 2021 at 08:21 AM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



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**Amanda Joseph** - November 03, 2021 at 09:58 PM