



# Patricia Meade Thompson Burke

APR 6, 1945 - OCT 5, 2012



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# Table of Contents

<b>Obituary</b> .....	Page 3
<b>Tribute Wall</b> .....	Page 5



# Patricia Meade Thompson Burke

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**P**atricia Meade Thompson Burke “Patty”, age 67, of Lewes, DE, passed away peacefully at her home on Lewes Beach on Friday, October 5, 2012, with her loving family by her side. She was born on April 6, 1945 in Lewes, DE, daughter of the late Wesley Howard Thompson and Patricia Meade Layton.

Mrs. Burke spent most of her childhood growing up in Rehoboth Beach, DE. She attended the Mary Burnham School and the American School in Switzerland. Mrs. Burke enjoyed traveling extensively throughout Europe alongside her aunt, Anne L. Layton who served in various capacities with the American Foreign Service. She spent a lifelong career in Real Estate and was among the youngest of realtors to achieve the designation as a Real Estate Broker.

Mrs. Burke was never far from the beach and insisted before she would give her hand in marriage; her husband would have to move to the beach. She was truly a person with “sand between her toes”. She enjoyed walking her dogs along the beach and was often seen swimming up until as late as November. Most of all, Mrs. Burke enjoyed spending time with her family and tending to her extensive garden. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, and dear friend who will be missed by all who knew her.

In addition to her parents, Mrs. Burke was preceded in death by her grandmother, Jennie Harvie Jones Layton in 2000, and her aunt, Anne Landreth Layton in 2011. She is survived by her loving husband of 39 years, Merritt Burke III “Sam”; four sons: Merritt Burke IV and his wife Linda of Milton, DE, Laurence Layton Burke of Broadkill Beach, DE, Thompson Asbury Burke and his wife Lauren of Greenwood, DE, and Christopher Meade Burke of Broadkill Beach, DE; five grandchildren; one sister, Suzanne Blair Watkins of Tallahassee, FL; two loving dogs: Cedar and Bess; and three grand-dogs.

Memorial Services will be held on Friday, October 12, 2012 at 11:00 AM, at St. Georges Episcopal Chapel, 20274 Beaver Dam Road at Route 23, Harbeson, DE, where friends may visit beginning at



## Obituary

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10:00 AM. Interment will be private. Arrangements are being handled by Parsell Funeral Homes & Crematorium, Lewes, DE.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorial contributions be made to the Tunnel Cancer Center, 424 Savannah Road, Lewes, DE 19958.

Please sign Mrs. Burkes online guestbook at this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)



## Tribute Wall

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DS

**Doris Schnee** posted:

Dear Sam Thinking of you and your dear ones and sending our deepest heartfelt sympathy. It seems like only yesterday we were having a fine time with you at the beach----dinner and that very memorable evening waiting for Jack Mcneilly to be confirmed. Patty will be dearly missed by all who knew her. Please know our hearts are with you. Love to all, Carl and Doris

October 28 at 8:00 PM

BG

**Beth Raught Green** posted:

My deepest condolences to the Burke family. I will miss Patty so much. I loved coming to the beach each summer and talking to Patty. Especially talking about the popple we left as kids that she always held on to. My prayers are with you.

October 23 at 8:00 PM

KK

**Kevin And Nadene Keller** posted:

Sam,Our thoughts and prayers are with you and the boys.Sorry for your loss.

October 18 at 8:00 PM

BF

**Bradbury Family** posted:

to the loving family of patricia...our prayers our with each one and her fondmemories as a Mother and Wifewill forever live on in your hearts...keep her love byloving each other...

October 11 at 8:00 PM

CD

**Candy & Reds Dolson** posted:

Our love and thoughts are with you all.

October 11 at 8:00 PM



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LM

**Lisa McDonald** posted:

Dear Sam and the boys, My deepest sympathy. It is 1:15 on Friday, October 12th and I just heard of Patty's passing. So sorry to have missed the service. Patty had such an amazing presence about her. I know she was loved and will be greatly missed. So pleased she was able to enjoy this past summer on the beach. You will remain in my thoughts and prayers. Warmest regards, Lisa McDonald

October 11 at 8:00 PM

SK

**Sandy Kelly** posted:

Sam: So sorry to hear of your loss. Its a hard time but you will get through it. You still have your family by your side. My prayers are with you.

October 9 at 8:00 PM

BS

**Brad Schell** posted:

I was saddened to hear of Mrs. Burkes passing. My condolences go out to Sam, Laurence, Chris, and the entire Burke family. I am sorry for your loss.

October 8 at 8:00 PM

RB

**Richard & Pat Beebe** posted:

Our thoughts and prayers are with you at this time. My all the memories you have of Patti (daughter, wife and Mother) over the years give you comfort and peace.

October 8 at 8:00 PM

DG

**Dean And Mary Lou Griffin** posted:

We are so sorry to hear the news. We have so many fond memories of Lewes beach and Patty and her family. Know that we share in your sorrow.

October 8 at 8:00 PM

KM

**Kordy Moore** posted:

My deepest condolences to the entire Burke family as well as the many people Mrs. Burke touched during her lifetime. A new angel has arrived in Heaven that will watch over her family and friends!

October 8 at 8:00 PM



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**Anonymous** posted:

A sympathy card has been sent to the family of Patricia Meade Thompson Burke.

October 8 at 8:00 PM



**Vicki Sammons** posted:

I will greatly miss Patty and her "doggy tales"! Thank-you, boys for making her feel so much better by bringing her in for her last "hair- do"! Vicki Sammons (Victoria's Salon)

October 8 at 8:00 PM



**Jane Mann** posted:

I am so sorry. I enjoyed sitting with Patty on the beach talking. Also the boys and the dog when we lived at 56. We had to sell and come home because of my husband failing health. He passed away shortly after. I know what you are all going thru and you have my sympathy. Jane Mann

October 7 at 8:00 PM



**Bill Skelton** posted:

Merritt (IV), I'm sorry to hear of your loss. Like your mother, you have the good fortune of "the sand between your toes." It's obvious she had an abiding love for coastal Delaware. Best wishes for you and Linda, Bill Skelton

October 7 at 8:00 PM



**Verna Byre** posted:

With fond memories.

October 7 at 8:00 PM



**Nancy Jefferson** posted:

Sam, so sorry about Patty. You and the boys are in my thoughts and prayers. S/he was a fine lady and will be missed

October 7 at 8:00 PM



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CT

**Coleman Townsend** posted:

I send my most sincere sympathy to Patty's family. While having not been close these last years she was a wonderful childhood friend whose friendship and companionship were very important.

October 6 at 8:00 PM

SR

**Sandra Ridgely** posted:

Patty was a friend of mine. She was admired for her strong commitment to life, whether with her wonderful children or on the beach communicating with friends or strangers making sure they appreciated our lovely Lewes beach. I will miss seeing her strolling to the waters edge with her canine beside her..

October 6 at 8:00 PM

JR

**Joan Reed** posted:

Sam, Merritt, Laurence, & Chris So sorry for your loss. I enjoyed sitting with Pat at all those soccer and Little League baseball games watching all our boys and having some good heart to heart chats about those boys and other life events. Sam do you remember the night Pete & I took you home after one of those away soccer games because Pat was mad at you? Surround yourselves with each other, because Pat is a special part of each one of you now. My thoughts are with you all. Joan & Pete Reed, Stephen & Ryan Bunting, Brad & Bryan Reed

October 6 at 8:00 PM

MF

**Marie Ridings Ferguson** posted:

My deepest condolences to all of the Burke family. Marie "T" Ferguson

October 6 at 8:00 PM

SP

**Sylvia Peterson** posted:

I really didn't know Patti, although I have been coming to Pilot Point for 30 years. But I loved seeing her on the beach with her dogs and talking with her, mainly about dogs, when we met. I will miss seeing her. My condolences to Sam and all the family. Sylvia Peterson 38 Pilot Point

October 6 at 8:00 PM



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**Cynthia Armour** posted:

Patty, your passing will leave a big hole in my life. Even more in the lives of your husband and sons. You will be sorely missed.

October 6 at 8:00 PM



# Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Patricia by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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