



Mary Hartnett Abbott

OCT 4, 1945 - JAN 27, 2023



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Mary Martha Hartnett Abbott 1945-2023

Mary Martha Hartnett Abbott left us January 27, 2023 while doing Wordle in her home in Lewes, Delaware. Although recuperating from a recent heart attack at 77 years old, her unexpected death reflected her life philosophy of living life to its fullest and making every minute count. Mary was the daughter of Dr. John C. Hartnett and Irene LaFountain Hartnett. She was born and raised in Burlington, Vermont and attended Trinity College where she majored in metaphysics and classical languages. She later received a Masters in Administration from Antioch College in New Hampshire.

Mary's career was at Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center in Hanover, New Hampshire in Administration for over 20 years. She loved her job and friends and lived her storied life with intention and joy. Mary's optimism was contagious. Her love for life was manifest in her infamous dinner parties and elegant table settings. She polished every fork and ironed the linen napkins until they were perfect. When you were invited to her table, you felt loved.

Mary deeply loved her family and grandchildren and was always sharing their accomplishments and stories. She cared about others and their lives.

Mary was predeceased by her husband, parents, brother, two nephews and one niece. She is survived by her beloved family: her children Kristen Eleanor and her husband Karl (Colorado), and two granddaughters Madeline (New York City) and Isabelle (Seattle); her son Thomas John (Alaska) and his wife Lisa and four grandchildren and one great granddaughter. (Thomas John, Carley, Stormy, Tiffany and her daughter Meredith). She leaves two sisters, Donna Marie and her husband James (Florida), and Johnette (Delaware). She leaves two nieces Kate and husband David (New York), and Shannon and husband Eric and children Phoebe and Jonah (Boston) as well as special friends from Washington, DC, Serena and her daughter Bella.



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Mary's legacy is love. St John the Cross wrote "When the evening of life comes, we will be judged on love." Mary surely passed that test. We, her survivors, are the lucky ones to inherit that love.

Mary wished to be cremated and have a celebration of life service at the convenience of the family at a later date.

Donations may be made in honor of Mary Abbott to the Rehoboth Art League, at 12 Dodd's Lane, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971.

Please sign Mary's virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.



Tribute Wall

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BM

Brittany Hays Mcgreal posted:

Mary was an amazing friend with my Grammy Eleanor, the type of friend everyone wishes they could have. Mary will always hold a special place in my heart and I will never forget her kindness. May she Rest In Peace and condolences to the family.

February 7 at 12:23 PM

JO

Jon posted:

What a special, special lady!

February 7 at 10:30 AM

RM

Rose Murray posted:

Sometimes there are no words, and sometimes the smallest things take up the most room in our hearts. Marys' kindnesses touched so many of whose path she crossed. I will always remember Mary for a life well-lived and as a person well-loved. Her passing leaves a void in our community and one less lovely person in our world. Rose Murray

February 7 at 10:12 AM

JA

Joanne Anderson posted:

Mary was my customer while at Dartmouth. Our meetings always began with her recent shopping spree while visiting her sister in DC (Stuart Weitzman) fabric samples, paint chips recipes and loving stories about her children and grandchildren. We did eventually discuss business at hand. Mary was one in a million; I always smiled while in her company and always when thinking of her. Joanne Anderson

February 6 at 4:28 AM

NC

Nick De Cerchio posted:

Mary would always brighten our day. Knowing her enriched our lives. She will be sadly missed. Nick and Donna De Cerchio

February 6 at 4:19 AM



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SW

Sandy Worden posted:

I met Mary And her sister through my daughter. We were invited to their home for dinner and I still have wonderful memories and pictures of the elegant table they set and the lovely meal prepared . Their home showed the love they had for welcoming guests and making them feel special.

February 4 at 4:00 AM

YM

Yolanda Mazyck posted:

The Sisters is how I refer to Johnette and Mary — remastered from a Hallmark movie. Though my exposure was initiated through Johnette, Mary graciously and warm heartedly embraced me as if we had a long established relationship. Mary's kind spirit and welcoming soul helped create a place of refuge when my life in Wasington, DC overwhelmed—a Lighthouse. Rest now, Mary. Your light remains lit in the Lighthouse you helped create.~Yolanda Mazyck

February 4 at 3:44 AM

MM

Martha Maurer April 4 at 10:54 AM

I worked with Mary at Dartmouth-Hitchcock for 20+ years on operations management. She was my mentor and friend. We we known as the M&Ms because if one didn't know the answer the other would. The was it was mostly Mary as I would often ask her what she would do to resolve the situation and her advice was always spot on. We took many business trips together and she was the best travel companion with her wealth of knowledge about the best places to eat and shop around the country. She had a wonderful sense of humor and we were always laughing (though sometimes inappropriately). What I remember most was how proud she was of her grandchildren and her children. Every meeting we had together was an update on their latest accomplishments or adventures. Johnette was also a frequent source of pride as Mary would often talk about all the wonderful work she was doing helping others. I have so many wonderful memories of Mary. She was such a dynamic force. I know that force lives on through her family. What a gift she was to all who were lucky enough to know her.

LB

Lou Braithwaite February 6 at 11:38 AM

I last saw Mary on New Year's Day. As always she was glowing with her love of life and the warmth of her friendships. The world will be a less vibrant place without Mary, but she will always have a bright spot in the hearts and minds of those who knew her and loved her. Lou Braithwaite

LG

Leecarole Gourley February 5 at 3:43 AM

I met Mary through Johnette in the late 80's when Johnette, Mary visited me in Stowe, Vt. So many wonderful, fun times with "The Sisters " in Vermont and Boston! Mary you leave a legacy of love and public service And will be rembered as graceful, kind Mary Abbott! Love Lee Carole



Memories only last if you share them

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



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