



Cynthia "Cindy" McPherson

November 4, 1948 - June 27, 2019

Cynthia "Cindy" McPherson, 70, of Saline, Michigan passed away on Tuesday, June 27, 2019. She was born on November 4, 1948, to parents Jack and Pauline "Dottie" Burcroff.

She graduated from Belleville High School in 1966. Following high school, she attended the University of Michigan and earned a bachelor's degree in French Languages and Education in 1970. In 1976, Cindy married William McPherson V on August 12th.

She began her teaching career at the junior high school of Van Buren School System and eventually moved to the high school teaching English and French. Cindy enjoyed teaching French and looked forward to traveling to France with her students and planning exchanges between Belleville High School and the high school in Chatellerault, France. In 1991, she was honored to be chosen for the Newsweek- WDIV Outstanding Teacher Award "Golden Apple." In 33 years of teaching, she influenced numerous students who went on to successful careers, several of whom became teachers of French.

She was a loyal member of Chi Omega sorority where she developed life-long friendships. Cindy loved U of M sports teams and, along with her husband, was an avid supporter of football and basketball teams. She enjoyed traveling, taking numerous trips to France and various destinations within the US, with her husband.

After retirement, she began volunteering for St. Joseph Mercy Hospital's Shape Down program. This work remained very important to her and gave her great purpose. Despite breathing difficulties, she remained active and enjoyed exercise on her treadmill. The exercise helped her remain mobile throughout her illness.

Cindy is survived by her husband of almost 43 years, William McPherson V; her sister, Beth (Charles) Mancherian; her uncle, Paul (Beverly) Burcroff; her sister-in-law, Elizabeth (David) Cregger; her nieces, Keven Mancherian and Alexis Cregger; her nephews, Warren Mancherian and Michael Cregger; and many cousins. A day rarely went by without the sisters seeing one another or a minimum of at least three extended telephones calls.

She will also be deeply missed by her cairn terrier, Berman, who knew her as “Mommie.”

She will be missed by friends and family who will remember her as a loyal friend and beautiful person, both inwardly and out. You could always count on a smile from Cindy.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests contributions to the Solanus Casey Center (1780 Mt. Elliott St., Detroit, MI 48207), the Yankee Air Museum (47884 D St., Belleville, MI 48111), or the St. Louis Center in Chelsea, Michigan (16195 W. Old US Hwy 12, Chelsea, MI 48118).

In accordance with Cindy’s wishes, private cremation services have taken place. A celebration of life event will take place at a later date.

Comments



“ I'm so sorry for your loss Bill and family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers.

Sincerely,
Luke Donahue

Luke - July 18 at 01:37 PM



“ Cindy was a talented, creative special person---far too young to leave her loved ones so soon. Bill, Beth, and Chuck, my sincere blessings in the loss of your special loved one.

May many stars shine upon you.
May God's Grace and Blessings keep you in his Care

Lovingly, Jan Leonard

Jan Leonard - July 13 at 03:49 PM



“ I loved getting to know a Cindy in Beth's exercise classes. Cindy was always warm, kind, and smiling. I was not surprised to find out she had been a teacher. She kept Beth organized and was always a sweet, gentle presence. Charlotte

Charlotte Whitney - July 09 at 04:49 PM



“ Fairest of All was purchased for the family of Cynthia "Cindy" McPherson.



July 01 at 11:42 PM



“ With Heartfelt Sympathy to the Family of Mrs. Cynthia McPherson, with sympathy to lift your heart, To ease your pain and sorrow and to bring you strength and comfort for today and each tomorrow. There will come a time were there will be no more sickness,this is a promise from God ,Please Read (Isaiah 33:24).

Kelly C. - July 01 at 07:47 PM



“ We send our sincerest condolences to Beth, Chuck, Bill and family that you will be comforted in the future with the beautiful memories of your lovely Cindy. Fondly, Barb and Dan Champion

barbara champion - July 01 at 12:04 PM



“ I would like to extend to: Bill, Beth and Chuck my deepest sympathies. I know how special Cindy was to you and you are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Bobby

Bob Nessar - June 29 at 08:06 PM



“ My condolences to the family. Mme McPherson was a wonderful teacher and an inspiration to all of her students. Being a student in her French class for four years at Belleville High School and traveling to France with the high school changed the trajectory of my life and inspired my current life's work as an immigration law professor and attorney. Through Mme McPherson's love of French and teaching she inspired me to continue my French in college which enabled me to study abroad in Strasbourg, France and Martinique. These experiences opened up the world to me. I was able to communicate with my French host moms, volunteer in refugee centers and start a refugee legal aid organization. Later on in my life, I lived in Morocco for a year, teaching refugee law and humanitarian law in French at a local university. Today I can communicate with my French speaking refugee clients who are always amazed that I speak French. Mme McPherson's life demonstrates the age old age - one book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world - and inspire a child for the rest of her life. Thank you Mme McPherson without your passion for teaching, high standards, class and love of French - I would not be where I am today. Rest in Heaven, Your Student Always, Karla McKanders

Karla McKanders - June 29 at 06:09 PM



“ Chere Madame, vous me manquez! Merci beaucoup pour les lecons- de la langue francaise et de la vie. Madame McPherson was a fabulous influence on me; I was lucky enough to take part in the exchange with Chatellerault in 1999. It was the first of many trips I've taken to France since then. I credit Madame for teaching so many kids from that small town that they can and should explore the big, amazing world beyond it. I learned the news of her passing as my husband and I were en route to France for our honeymoon, which seems like a fitting tribute to her. We will raise a glass to Madame en France! Sending love to la famille.

Kara Wenzel - June 29 at 05:56 PM



“ Beth, I am so sorry for your loss. I have often thought of the closeness you and Cindy exuded. It was always fun to see you two taking walks together. I know you will work through the pain. Take time and know that you both have touched many many lives. Becky Underwood and Greg Crowe.

Rebecca Underwood - June 29 at 05:08 PM



“ We had the extreme pleasure of meeting Cindy and Bill in Ponce Inlet, FL. We were in the same Condo Building at Oceanquest. I remember meeting Cindy one Friday night at our building social. We struck up a conversation, realizing we were both from Michigan and lived only about 2 1/2 hrs. from each other. As I was talking to this tall beautiful woman with a smile that never left her face, I couldn't help thinking, the essence of her inner beauty showed through with every word she spoke. I feel so blessed to have had a bit of time with her. She was such an inspiration to all that crossed her path in life. Bill, May you be comforted by the many wonderful memories you and Cindy shared. Dene and Linda Hadden

Dene and Linda Hadden - June 29 at 12:49 PM



“ I was so blessed to be able to help care for Cindy in her final months. Her strength and courage were truly inspirational. My condolences to the family, her husband, sister and brother in law. Such a kind family. God Bless. Kathy

Kathy Bough - June 29 at 12:06 PM



“ I met Cindy in yoga class in Daytona Beach, FL. Cindy made such a lasting impression with her wonderful smile and tremendous courage as she always gave her best to keep up and follow through. It was truly beautiful to watch how much her sister, Beth, and she cared for one another. How fortunate to be in this class together with them. I could not get over that regardless of how Cindy was feeling, she always had a kind word and showed true interest in getting to know each of us. Both she and Beth are an inspiration as to how to treat people with respect and love. Cindy will certainly be missed!
Joan Fenton, Daytona Beach

Joan Fenton - June 29 at 07:16 AM



“ Cindy always had a smile and was very friendly just like Beth, whom I attended high school with. When my kids were in school, even though they took German, she always had time to talk. I saw Diane Tilson not long ago and she mentioned that Cindy was ill. I'm so sorry for your loss. She was too young. Cheryl Wagner

cheryl Wagner - June 28 at 10:19 PM



“ I am so very sorry to hear of Madame's passing. She was one of the most influential people in my life, and the reason I became a French teacher myself. She has always been the yardstick by which I measure myself as an educator, and she set the bar high. Cindy was an amazing teacher, but also a loving, kind, caring, funny, compassionate, wonderful woman. She made every day better for me when I was in high school, and she continued to be one of my biggest cheerleaders as I continued on to college at the University of Michigan. My heart is absolutely broken for Cindy's friends and family, as I know this world has lost an incredibly bright light. My life is so much better, having been blessed with knowing and loving Madame, and I am sending prayers and comforting thoughts to her family and friends now, as they struggle to face each day without her.

Kind Regards,

Jennifer (Amprim) Wolf

Jennifer Wolf - June 28 at 09:47 PM



“ Cindy was a bright light in our Florida Yoga class She was adored and will be so very missed.

It was an honor to know her and her beautiful heart !

With Infinite Blessings and love

Namaste

Caron & Jack Krier

Caron KRIER - June 28 at 07:27 PM



“ Madame McPherson was my French teacher for 4 years at BHS. I loved taking French class. She made it fun and I learned alot from her. Condolences to her family for their loss. Her former students will continue to remember her and her love of France.

Karrie - June 28 at 07:18 PM



“ Mme. McPherson was an excellent teacher and a wonderful, caring person. She will be deeply missed.

Anonymous - June 28 at 05:52 PM



“ My condolences to Mrs. McPherson's family. She was one of my favorite teachers at BHS. I've thought of her often over the years and still remember our first French lesson word for word. Au revoir, Madame.

Laura Brooks - June 28 at 04:13 PM



“ She will always be Madame McPherson to me... She was such a wonderful teacher and made French class so enjoyable. Our trip to Paris with her I think was in 1978 or 1977 - it was a wonderful trip and she gave so much of herself to the school and her students. My condolences to her family... A great teacher has gone to heaven... But we are the better for having her teach us.

Robin (Riggs) La Tourette - June 28 at 03:48 PM



“ I was fortunate to have some really amazing teachers. Teachers that I think of often 20+ years later. Madame McPherson made my high school experience amazing and for that I am forever grateful.

Tammy Pietrowski - June 28 at 03:40 PM



“ My personal condolences go out to the family and friends during this time of loss

Stephen Coffelt - June 28 at 10:27 AM



“ My name is Marnie (Alexander) Ulrich. I did my student teaching under Cindy in 1999. She was such a pleasure to work with and so very encouraging! I went on to teach high school French for 13 years and used many of the skills and grading techniques that she taught me. My condolences to her family. I am a better person having had Cindy in my life during such a challenging life event.



Marnie Ulrich - June 28 at 09:41 AM