



Jeanne Fortin

September 20, 1938 - July 5, 2024

Jeanne Valiquette Fortin, widow of Dr. Wilfrid L. Fortin, went to heaven on July 5, 2024. Jeanne was born in Nashua NH on September 20, 1938, the only child of Jean Baptiste Valiquette and Blanche Maranda Valiquette.

Jeanne was a graduate of St. Louis de Gonzague High School class of 1955 and Rivier University class of 1959 with a Bachelor of Music degree in music education and piano. She accompanied the Rivier College Glee Club and performed at many recitals. During her student years at St. Louis High, she was the accompanist for the Glee Club and during her student years at Rivier College she was the accompanist for the Rivier Glee Club. She was a member of the St. Louis de Gonzague church choir and the Nashua Choral Society. As a member of the Nashua Symphony, she played second flute. She went on to graduate school at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana and studied piano with the famous pianist Menahem Pressler of the Beaux Arts trio.

When Jeanne returned to Nashua she taught elementary school music and band in Claremont NH and was music supervisor of Junior High School music in Manchester NH. During this time, she also worked at St. Joseph Hospital weekends and met her future husband Dr. Wilfrid Fortin. She married 'Willy,' the love of her life, on April 11, 1966. After her marriage, she managed her husband's medical office: St. Joseph Anesthesia Associates. She and her

husband shared a love of classical music, opera and traveling. While they traveled to medical conventions, they heard the Metropolitan Opera, National Symphony Orchestra, New Orleans Philharmonic, San Francisco Orchestra, and Puerto Rico Symphony. Together they loved to vacation in Florida and the islands.

She was very involved with her children's activities and attended basketball games for the St. Joseph CYO, cheerleading for the basketball team at Presentation of Mary Academy and color guard for Nashua High. She was a volunteer driver for the children's field trips. A lover of the arts, she enrolled her children in art, piano, guitar, violin and flute lessons. However, her children were far more interested in sports than the arts. She was a tutor at Fairgrounds Elementary School, Presentation of Mary Academy and Nashua Catholic Schools, playing the piano for school activities and the organ for masses. Jeanne and her husband were eucharistic ministers at St. Joseph Hospital. In her spare time she volunteered to transport many friends and neighbors for doctor appointments and to hospitals for care in the Nashua, Manchester and Boston areas.

She loved family genealogy and hosted many family get togethers. The largest gathering of the Fortin clan included 198 guests. Families came from: Canada, Florida, California and the New England states.

Jeanne is survived by her 3 children: Celine and her husband John Heintz of Nashua NH; David and his wife Christine of Hudson NH; Elise and her husband Ronald Simoneau of Nashua NH. Grandchildren: Kara and Kendall Heintz of Nashua NH; Harris, Hannah and Samuel Fortin of Hudson NH; Benoît and Adelyn Fortin Simoneau of Nashua NH.

~Our mom wrote her own obituary; the above were her words and the things she wanted people to know about her. What could never be described in words is the tremendous loss felt by those closest to her. We are thankful for

her endless love in our lives, which then circled back to her during her decline. We are grateful for everyone who helped care for her. We cherish the time we had with her and will miss her eternally.

~Elise, David, and Celine Fortin

Following cremation, visiting hours will be held on Tuesday, July 9th from 4pm ~ 6pm in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Ferry Street in Hudson. A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Wednesday, July 10th at 10am in St. Joseph the Worker Church, 777 West Hollis Street in Nashua. All may please meet at church. Burial will be in St. Louis Cemetery in Nashua.

Previous Events

VISITING HOURS

JUL **9**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home Hudson, NH
50 Ferry Street
Hudson, NH 03051
(603) 882-9431
info@dumontsullivan.com

MASS AT CHURCH

JUL **10**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Joseph the Worker Parish
777 West Hollis St.
Nashua, NH

Tribute Wall



“ Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes & Cremation Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Jeanne Fortin



Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes - July 07, 2024 at 10:16 AM

KC

My thoughts and prayers are with the family and all who had the pleasure to call her friend. 🙏
Kathy Camberlain

kathy camberlain - July 07, 2024 at 10:48 AM

MS

Aunt Jeanne, may you rest in eternal peace. You will be missed dearly by so so many and forever in my thoughts and prayers ❤️🙏❤️

Michelle Rayhorn (Missy St.jacques) - July 07, 2024 at 11:20 AM

HW

Beautiful tribute. She was absolutely amazing and extremely talented. She will be missed by so many. Thoughts and prayers to all the family at this difficult time. Sending love ❤️

Hollie Wizboski - July 07, 2024 at 11:44 AM

TF

Beautiful tribute for a beautiful woman. Thank you and my condolences to all the family. I loved her.
Therese Fortin CSC

therese fortin - July 07, 2024 at 02:30 PM

TP

I didn't have the pleasure of knowing Jeanne but reading about her and watching the video she had a full long life. My condolences to all the family.

Tia Phillips - July 07, 2024 at 02:43 PM

LG

I'm going to miss her so very much! What a firecracker she was! This was such a beautiful tribute to her and a trip down memory lane. Rest in eternal peace, dear Jeanne.

Laura Guptill - July 11, 2024 at 05:56 PM

MH

This video is just beautiful! Brought tears and smiles. She was such a magnificent human in every way! May she be reunited with all who went before her and loved her dearly. 💕

Michelle Harper - July 11, 2024 at 09:28 PM

VF

“*Condolences to the family. I only met Jeanne once at the Hampton summer family trip. She was wonderful warm and inviting. Thank you for including me with the family. Love you all.*”



Victoria DeBonis Fortin - July 11, 2024 at 06:42 PM



“ [An excerpt from Dave's eulogy which I think describes a little better who Jeanne was...)

Jeanne was an amazing mother. My dad's career demanded the vast majority of his time. That left my mom to do the majority of day to day parenting, including feeding, clothing, chauffeuring, nurturing, etc. Often by herself. And we weren't necessarily easy kids. I was kind of a trouble maker on occasion.

Jeanne was an amazing musician. She was an accomplished pianist and accompanist, flutist, and music teacher for several years. Ironically, she never was that crazy about playing piano for an audience at home though occasionally we could get her to belt out a string of Carols at Christmas. Though I fondly remember her cycling for hours through major, minor, and diminished scales on the piano as part of her practice routine when she was alone and didn't know anyone was around.

Jeanne was an amazing wife. She took care of my dad 24/7 for several years as his cognitive impairment progressed due to the effects of Lewy Body Dementia. In fact, she took such good care of him that it sometimes hid the fact that he was declining. None of us ever imagined we would have to watch that type of decline a second time.

But what you'll never decipher from the obituary is the following:

Jeanne was an amazing person.

Much more specifically:

My mom was your mom.

When you stepped into my mom's house or my mom's presence, you were immediately treated with warmth and love. She always tried to make everyone in the room feel comfortable.

If you were hungry, she fed you. If you were thirsty, she gave you drink. If you were happy, she was happy with you. If you were sad, she was sad with you. If you were hurt, she would tend to your wounds, physical or emotional. If you needed someone to talk to,

she would converse with you. And if you just needed someone to listen, she would just listen.

My mom was cool too. I loved having friends meet my mom and a handful of them even started called her Mum themselves, even to this day.

She would often facilitate gatherings with friends and tasty beverages as long as no one would be driving home.

And senior skip day when I needed someone to call in my absence, she totally had my back.

If you wanted to party, she was down with that too.

She had an affinity for gin martinis, so much in fact that we would often refer to her as “Jeannie Martini”.

Her witty humor persevered right to the end.

My mom had a stroke in November of 2018, undoubtedly a major catalyst of her decline.

“I’ll see you when I see you” was a common parting phrase of hers. I began to analyze things she said more and more as she declined and her mortality became increasingly apparent. I think it was her way of saying that she understood me and my sisters had spouses and children and very busy lives away from the house we grew up in. We had employment obligations and our kids had endless sports and school activities. And so it was ok that she didn’t see us every day or talk to us on the phone every day. She realized that life happens and she respected that.

She knew in her heart that she would always see us again soon and would be waiting there with open arms.

In closing, I can’t help but think what my mom would be saying right now:

“Why are you so sad?

I feel so good right now.

No hip issues or infections.

My mind is crystal clear.

*Pups is here right next to me and he is all better too.
We are sitting under a small maple tree by the pool of Paradise.
There is no pain or stress or suffering of any kind here.
Just love.
So don't worry about me.
You've worried too much already
You and your sisters take good care of each other and be strong.
I love you and I already know you love me because you told me (ad
nauseum) in my final days and weeks.
Go home and be with your family.
Give my love to the bubbas.
And I'll see you when I see you."*

Dave Fortin - July 11, 2024 at 04:58 PM

MH

David, that is just beautiful! You all were so lucky to have her and she was lucky to have you, too! Much love to you all! I'll see you when I see you! 💕💕

Michelle Harper - July 11, 2024 at 05:33 PM

LG

I'm crying. This is so beautiful. Thank you.

Laura Guptill - July 11, 2024 at 06:55 PM

UR

Beautiful tribute to your mom, David. I had the privilege to know your mom at both Anysley Place and Nashua Crossings. What a special, wonderful lady, with the best kids! You're in my thoughts and with you all.

Ursula Rouleau - July 19, 2024 at 10:12 PM



“ *Best mother in law this guy could have ever wished for. She was awesome in every way, even when she would tell me to shut up. Love you Jeanne, for ever and ever.*



Ron Simoneau - July 08, 2024 at 09:01 PM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



therese - July 07, 2024 at 04:25 PM

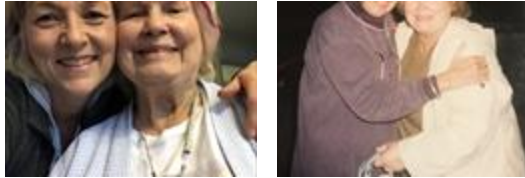


Wonderful memories

therese - July 07, 2024 at 04:27 PM

LG

“ Rest in peace, dear Jeanne. Thank you for being our family historian and keeping us all close. You will be sorely missed and forever remembered with love ❤️
Love and comfort to Celine, David and Elise, their spouses, and all her grandchildren, she was so proud of you all.



Laura Guptill - July 06, 2024 at 08:15 PM

TF

I always loved the family get-togethers at Aunt Jeanne's house. My thoughts and prayers go out to Celine, David, Elise and their families.

Thomas Fortin - July 07, 2024 at 11:20 AM

AD

She was a wonderful friend for over 50 years to me and Willy & she helped me a lot in my trips back NH from Puerto Rico I even drove Celines car once & one of the Continentals After my husband passed away in 2021 the two of them sent me an airline ticket to come home to NH! So many more

Ann Donnelly - July 08, 2024 at 04:30 PM

AD

Oops! So many more memories

Ann Donnelly - July 08, 2024 at 04:31 PM

GD

I am just seeing this tonight. My heart and prayers are with all of you. I remember Celine and her children as well as Elise and her children from Infant Jesus School. Your Mom and Dad must be reunited in Heaven and watching over all of you with love and pride. God be with all of you.

Ginny Dumont - July 12, 2024 at 10:28 PM