



Allison Cathy Ratts

SEP 19, 1957 - NOV 20, 2018



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Allison Catherine Ratts, “Cathy” as she was known, age 61, died November 20, 2018 at St. John’s Hospital in Springfield, IL after a determined battle with cancer.

She was born Allison Catherine Ann Heath on September 19, 1957 in St. Charles, IL but spent her formative years in Champaign, IL. She attended Parkland Community College in Champaign as well as Waubensee Community College in Sugar Grove, IL becoming a registered interpreter for the hearing impaired and an instructor of Manual Communications. She earned her Bachelor’s degree Summa Cum Laude from Illinois State University, Normal, IL and her Master’s degree also Summa Cum Laude from Aurora University in Aurora, IL.

During her career as an educator, she taught at Unity High School in Tolono, IL; Rantoul Twp. High School in Rantoul, IL and Dixon Public Schools, Dixon, IL. She was known as a caring and compassionate teacher who endeared herself to students and parents alike. She was also an avid bass fisherman, like her husband, and athletic runner. Cathy enjoyed the outdoors and wildlife, particularly white tailed deer fawns and hummingbirds.

Following retirement, she and her husband, Darryl A. Ratts, moved from Dixon, IL to Decatur/Mt. Zion, IL. He survives.

An informal celebration of her life will be held from 2:00 to 4:00 PM, Saturday, December 1, 2018, at Graceland Fairlawn Funeral Home, 2091 N. Oakland Ave, Decatur, IL 62526. Cremation rites have been accorded. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund Alliance, PO Box 32141, New York, NY 10087-2141.

Condolences may be left to Cathy’s family at www.gracelandfairlawn.com.



Tribute Wall

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CC

Carla Cruse posted:

She was perfection with grace! She will be missed for her knowledge, kindness, and sense of humor.

July 27 at 2:15 AM

SD

Sandy Davis posted:

I was very surprised to see Cathy's obituary. My thoughts and prayers are with you. She was a great person to work with at RTHS.

November 28 at 1:15 PM

LA

Lynnsey Armoska posted:

My sincere sympathy to you Darryl on Cathy's passing; wife and best friend. She was beautiful inside and out. May God Bless, Lynnsey Armoska, formerly Hair and Co. Sterling IL

November 27 at 2:49 PM

SM

Steven Miller posted:

Darryl, I was shocked to see Cathy in the obituary. Way too young to go. I always admired her passion for her job in working with the kids at Rantoul High. She was a good person and deserved more years than she was given. My sympathies to you and your family. Steve Miller

November 27 at 12:09 PM

MT

Michael And Linda Topolovec posted:

Our sincere sympathies. We always enjoyed reading Cathy's emails; no one could put words together in such a delightful manner. Our hearts are with you, Darryl. Cathy will be greatly missed.

November 27 at 5:14 AM

DH

Don And Nancy Henegar posted:

So very sorry to hear this news. Cathy was a dear friend and will be remembered with such wonderful memories. She was an inspiration to her students as well as her colleagues. She will be missed! My sympathies to you Darryl.

November 25 at 9:44 AM



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Lea Blake posted:

Dear Cathy...Although so many miles apart, we shared so many happy years. Fish stories, deer sightings, hummingbird migrations. What fun to compare the first springtime hummingbird arrivals and to spot the first fawns of the season. You will be so missed! But you are free of that terrible disease and the pain it caused you. We'll meet again...of that I am sure. Sending love to you! Lea

November 23 at 4:42 AM



Kathy Graves posted:

Rest In Peace my dear sweet Cathy. You have earned your wings – fly high with the angels. You will forever have a place in my heart....until we meet again ??

November 22 at 5:21 AM



Memories only last if you share them

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



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