

Half Staff – Patricia Yarborough Reed

November 18, 2015



ROCKPORT: Patricia Yarborough Reed, 68, died peacefully at her home in Rockport, of complications from metastatic breast cancer, on November 18, 2015. Patricia was born July 27, 1947 at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., where her father was attending the U.S. Army War College.

Patricia's father, Lieutenant General William P. Yarborough designed the U.S. Army parachute wings in 1941 and was declared the Father of the Modern Green Berets by the U.S. Army at the time of his death in December 2005. Patricia's mother was Norma Mae Tuttle, a former Miss Topeka Kansas, who died in July 1999.

Patricia graduated from Fayetteville (NC) High School in 1965 and was crowned Miss Fayetteville that same year. She graduated from Incarnate Word College, San Antonio, Texas, with a BA in Education and from Lesley University with a MA in Education.

She taught art in secondary schools for over 30 years with her final position at Eastern Point Day School, Gloucester. Patricia was an artist – paintings and pottery – and won awards in Italy, Texas, California, Georgia, Virginia and Cape Ann.

Patricia's greatest loves in her life, after her family, were teaching art to children and creating works of art. She had a hunger to create and make use of her extraordinary imagination. "If you want a replica of a subject, take a photograph," she often said. Instead she would try and capture the essence of a subject and then let her imagination take over. "I have to have my kid fix," she said, when asked why she continued to teach at Eastern Point Day School after retiring from the Cobb County, Georgia schools system.

Patricia was an Army brat and married a career army officer, and lived in many places including Bad Toelz, Germany; Vicenza, Italy; Honolulu, Hawaii; and Monterey, Calif. In most of these places she received awards for her art. She taught art to literally thousands of children. She was most touched when a young child would say to her, "When I grow up, I want to be just like you." Patricia was a linguist, potter, artist, vocalist, gourmet cook, wife, mother and educator. In short, she was a woman for all seasons.

Patricia is survived by her husband, Colonel John F. Reed, Jr., USA Retired; son, Jonathan Yarborough Reed of Leesburg, Va.; son, Justin Yarborough Reed, of Atlanta; daughter, Heather Reed Adams, of Rockport; brother, Lieutenant Colonel William Lee Yarborough, USA retired, of Dumfries, Va.; grandson, Benjamin Pelham Adams of Rockport, and 15

nieces and nephews.

Her funeral service will be held in the First Congregational Church, 12 School Street, Rockport, MA at 1 p.m. on Sunday, December 6, 2015 followed by a reception. The burial will be held privately. The family requests that those interested may make a donation in Patricia's name to Care Dimensions (formerly Hospice of the North Shore), 75 Sylvan Street, Suite B-102, Danvers, MA 01923. Arrangements are by the Greely Funeral Home, 212 Washington Street, Gloucester. For online condolences, please visit www.greelyfuneralhome.com.