

Half Staff – Elizabeth Wittemann

January 30, 2017



Elizabeth (Betsy) Bues Wittemann, 75, of Glastonbury, died on Monday, January 30, 2017 at the University of Colorado Hospital with loving family at her side. Born on March 16, 1941, in Bridgeport, Connecticut to Elizabeth Lang Bues and Otto Bues, Betsy was a resident of Glastonbury, Connecticut for 47 years. She held a master's degree in creative writing from Wesleyan University and Bachelor's Degree in English from the College of New Rochelle, NY. Betsy was a journalist who started her career as a reporter in Rochester, NY. She then taught English for a year at a private school in Athens, Greece before returning to Connecticut to work at the Hartford Times.

In 1967 she married Ross Gardner Wittemann with whom she had two children, Audrey Wittemann Wennink of Chicago and Paul Fraser Wittemann of Arlington, Massachusetts. Betsy and Ross loved attending theater at the Hartford Stage Company and attending the Hartford Symphony. They also were avid travelers who enjoyed touring New England and Europe.

Betsy worked for several years leading the public relations department of Glastonbury-based advertising agency Adams, Rickard & Mason. She was a pioneer in travel writing, authoring multiple travel guides about New England including Daytripping and Dining in New England; Waterside Escapes: Great Getaways by Lake, River and Sea; and the Fireside Guide to New England Inns and Restaurants published by Wood Pond Press in the 1980s and 1990s, and writing travel features for publications including The New York Times, Boston Globe and Coastal Living. Betsy also worked for several years as a lifestyle reporter at the Manchester, CT daily newspaper Journal Inquirer.

In recent years, Betsy relished her part-time work as a tutor in the writing center at Manchester Community College. She was on a volunteer breakfast team with the House of Bread in Hartford for more than twenty years until her death. She also loved watercolor painting and creative writing; she took painting classes and was a member of various writing groups.

A lover of the sea, she spent many years vacationing in coastal Rockport, Massachusetts. In addition to her late husband (who died in May 2016) and children, she was devoted to her grandchildren, Claire A. Wennink of Chicago and Charles F. Wittemann of Arlington, Massachusetts, son-in-law Herbert Wennink, and daughter-in-law Kate Wittemann. She was close to her brother Lawrence Bues of Trumbull, CT, his wife Mary Jo Bues, their children Jonathan and Alex Bues, and his wife Katie.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church at 285 Church Street in Hartford Connecticut on Tuesday, February 7 at 10:00 a.m. Donations may be made to the House of Bread, 1453 Main Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06120. Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. To extend online condolences, please visit Farleysullivan.com