



## Catherine Marie Lyet

February 9, 2023

Catherine Marie Lyet, 49, of Lancaster, PA, died unexpectedly at Lancaster General Hospital on Thursday, February 9, 2023. Born in Charlottesville, VA, she was the daughter of J. Paul Lyet, MD, and Judy Schoenly Ware.

Catherine graduated from Lancaster Country Day School and attended Evergreen State College and Elizabethtown College. She was a self-proclaimed foodie who enjoyed baking all of her life sharing recipes with many friends. Catherine's Chilean Sea bass recipe was published after winning a Cooking Light magazine award. Following her culinary training at the House of Clarendon, she served several notable Lancaster restaurants as a pastry chef. One of her mentors in the kitchen was Jean-Maurice Juge at J.M. Bistro and Peter Kovalec, who taught her about and expanded her love of fine desserts. She also enjoyed working with children and hoped to create a children's cooking program. Her most recent job was working at Lancaster Cupcake as a baker.

Catherine loved being with people. Her sweet, often innocent, unassuming nature and loyalty to friends endeared her in the hearts of many. She enjoyed horseback riding, kayaking on the Conestoga River, and most of all, relaxing at the Chesapeake Bay, often hosting close friends and cooking for them all. She dearly loved her "side-kick" dog, Sammy. They were inseparable. Above all else however, Catherine cherished time spent with her five children who

will miss her dearly. Catherine's final act of kindness was the Gift of Sight donation of her corneas through SightLife. She was a member of St. James Episcopal Church in Lancaster.

Catherine is survived by her parents, Judy Ware, wife of Paul Ware, and J. Paul Lyet, MD, husband of Kathleen Lyet. She is also survived by five children: Nathaniel, triplets Alexander, Emeline, Elisabeth, and Olivia Lutz; her sister, Meredith Lyet; and brother, J. Paul Lyet IV. Also surviving are stepsisters, Julia A. Ware, Layla Ware De Luria, and Shannon Wallace, and stepbrothers, Bradley Book and Adam Garrett. She was predeceased by premature twin boys, Jackson Oliver and Samuel Franklin Lutz. The family interment was held at St. James Episcopal Church Memorial Garden next to her twin babies.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a Celebration of Life service at the Ware Center, 42 N. Prince Street, Lancaster, PA on Tuesday, March 28, 2023 which would have been Catherine's 50th birthday at 4:00 p.m. The family will receive friends in the Lyet Lobby from 3:00 p.m. until the time of the service. A fellowship time will follow.

Kindly omit flowers. Memorials may be sent to St. James Episcopal Church Addiction & Recovery Ministry, 119 N. Duke Street, Lancaster, PA 17602, and the Conestoga River Club, 45 Briargate Place, Millersville, PA 17551 Attn: John Laughlin.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

MAR 28. 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Ware Center  
42 N. Prince Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603

## Celebration of Life

MAR 28. 4:00 PM (ET)

Ware Center  
42 N. Prince Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603

# Tribute Wall



“ *Catherine Marie Lyet*

---

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Catherine was such a lovely and kind person, and she was a good friend to me when I moved to Lancaster over 9 years ago. We met because our kids were in the same classroom at the New School, but we later bonded over our shared love of cooking. She introduced me to so many people and made my husband and I feel so welcomed. I will never forget her generous spirit. When my son was hospitalized shortly after beginning school, she organized a meal chain, even though so many hardly knew me or my son. I was so grateful for the support during those difficult days, and was so touched by this. I will never forget it. We drifted apart after my kids left the school, yet any time we had a chance meeting, I always felt like no time had passed and we were chatting like no time has passed. I regret not reaching out to her more over the years and am sad I will never run into her in the central market or on the streets of Lancaster.*

*Judy, Paul, my most sincere condolences, and heartfelt sympathies for your loss.*

---

**Cynthia Whitehead Gaston** - March 28, 2023 at 11:47 AM

KK

“ I'll remember Catherine for her beautiful warm smile, laughter, patience, fantastic whimsical fashion sense and love for everyone around her. We united often in the kitchen together sharing and tackling recipes. Most memorable was the black bean salad, fresh chilled crab dip, tamales, chunky dunk, and our chili we kept elevating each and every time down to adding spicy pickle juice! We cooked a lot together! I can still see her walking the aisles of Central Market. Our best times were at the bay with our kids. Blessed to call her a friend and forever grateful to her for all the light she shared with me.

*Wishing all the family peace.*

*Lifting you up Catherine to your eternal life. May it be filled with beauty and love.*

---

**Kelley Kirsch** - March 27, 2023 at 05:04 PM

SV

“ *Judy and Paul,  
Gone so young... Such a tragedy...  
Sending each of you a big but gentle hug,  
Stefanie and Ed*

---

**Stefanie Valar** - March 27, 2023 at 03:14 PM

AM

“ *Catherine was very kind to me during a tragic point in my life. I will always remember her smile, kindness, and vibrant ability to light up a room. My heart breaks for her children but there's no doubt, her incredible spirit shines through each of them. To her parents, she was truly a genuinely good soul. May you find comfort in knowing that Catherine's life provided hope and joy to many. God bless you all.*

---

**Amber Martin** - March 26, 2023 at 08:00 PM

VR

“ *For Catherine  
Your light shone into my life unexpectedly  
And left much too soon. I will hold you close in my heart forever.  
Love, Vincent Ranzino*

---

**Vincent Fred Ranzino** - March 04, 2023 at 04:41 PM

JM

“ *I knew Catherine when we worked together at the George Street Cafe many years ago. I was just a college kid but she was incredibly kind, patient and generous. She never made me feel like I was less important because of my age or lack of culinary experience. I will always remember her warmth and kindness and how she spoke often about always wanting to be a mother. I am so very sad to hear of her passing. Holding her family and friends in my heart.*

---

**Jenny McClellan** - February 28, 2023 at 03:31 PM

TH

“ *I met Cat at church as well. She was sweet, kind and funny. Her presence lit up the room. She loved Sammy and she always gushed about her amazing children. My heart goes out to her parents, her children and to Sammy. Sending angels of comfort and peace to all.*



---

**Tija Hilton-Phillips** - February 26, 2023 at 10:08 PM

HS

“ *I am so very sorry to hear of Catherine's passing. She was so very sweet and truly had such a loving heart. My love goes out to her children, her parents and family...*

---

**Hilary Schenck** - February 24, 2023 at 10:37 AM

JB

“ i met cat in church and she always impressed me with how natural and beautiful she was. so comfortable in a spiritual space which for her was everywhere. i saw her last in market and she shared her heart with me as always...as though no time had passed. i will always love her and the innate beauty of her pure spirit. rest in beauty queen 💖

---

**jen brubaker** - February 21, 2023 at 06:36 PM

JW

Your comment brings me such joy as her mother to know that others have felt Catherine's warmth and love. She did have beauty both inside and out.

---

**Judy Ware** - February 22, 2023 at 11:32 AM

TH

“ Catherine was my next-door neighbor on Mulberry Street for a few years. She was sweet, funny, kind, generous and easy to be friends with. The health issues that she had lived through left her with a lingering sadness that informed her empathy for others. Spending time with Catherine could be freeing - she had a way of making those around her feel comfortable. The world is a little less bright without her in it. Still, as I write this, remembering my time with Catherine makes me smile. I know she would want me to.

---

**Tony Homer** - February 19, 2023 at 11:38 AM

JW

You are correct, Tony. Catherine wanted everyone to smile. She was a light that went out way too soon.

---

**Judy Ware** - February 22, 2023 at 11:37 AM

KA

“Loved the time that I spent kayaking with Cat!! She always had a smile and was a pleasure to be around. She will be missed dearly! Sending prayers of peace and serenity to her family and friends.

Kami - February 19, 2023 at 11:04 AM

JW

Thank you for your prayers

Judy Ware - February 22, 2023 at 11:39 AM

MM

“I met Catherine only once, at an otherwise sad event: the funeral of a young grandson of a homecare client. She was warm, and sweet, and just so kind. She was the only person outside the circle I was with, who took the time to talk to me. Granted, she had a purpose that involved her grandmother but she took interest in me beyond that. I've never forgotten meeting her, and that's rare for me. I've met thousands of people and most never leave the impression she did. What I remember most is her light. She was just pure light.

Mary-Elizabeth Morales - February 19, 2023 at 08:26 AM

TH

That's a lovely memory and it resonates with my experience of Catherine. Thanks for sharing, Mary-Elizabeth ❤️

Tony Homer - February 19, 2023 at 11:40 AM

JW

Your words are so beautiful and fill my heart with joy. Thank you for sharing this memory that I can hold onto for comfort.

Judy Ware - February 22, 2023 at 11:42 AM

MM

You're so welcome, Mrs. Ware. She was truly special, as was Deedee. Unforgettable women.

Mary-Elizabeth Morales - March 26, 2023 at 08:18 AM



*Thank you, Tony. She couldn't hide her light.*

---

**Mary-Elizabeth Morales** - March 26, 2023 at 08:19 AM