



Patricia Louise "Patti" Hudson

December 22, 2019

Patricia Louise "Patti" Hudson
The Gingerbread Lady

Patricia Louise "Patti" Hudson, "The Gingerbread Lady," passed away peacefully on Sunday, December 22, 2019, at Hospice & Community Care. Born in Cumberland, MD, on September 10, 1933, she was the loving wife of R. Suter Hudson. They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary in June. She was the daughter of John Clarence and Gladys Gill Fisher.

Patti graduated from Allegheny High School in Cumberland, MD, St. Mary's College where she was the president of the student government and the University of Maryland, graduating with a bachelor's degree in Home Economics.

Her love of gingerbread making came about because of the enthusiastic contributions and encouragement from the many friends she made through the years while teaching and sharing her craft. While in Hawaii with her husband, who was in the Navy, she took cake decorating classes that provided the basis for her skills with gingerbread art.

She taught classes in Gingerbread Housemaking for eight years at the Smithsonian Institution and authored the book, "Gingerbread Ideas," in 1995; it is now in its fifth edition. She also produced three VCR tapes and a DVD, "Gingerbread Housemaking." She was featured on the front page of the Wall Street Journal after publication of her book, which was distributed worldwide.

A member of the Lancaster Friends Quaker Meeting, Patti was also involved with the Sabian Assembly, a worldwide study of the writings of Mark Edmund Jones. She will be remembered for her generous spirit and the love of teaching children and adults gingerbread art.

She enjoyed riding a tandem bike with her husband and they attended many East Coast

Tandem rallies, including Tandem '76 in Lancaster County, which they both organized.

She is survived by her husband and by daughter, Linda Rae Hudson, wife of Jerome E. Herbers, Silver Spring, MD, three grandchildren, Esther Rae Herbers, Clara Grace Herbers, and Mairead Hunter, wife of Robby Franz, all of Maryland and sister, Mary Esther, wife of Thomas Lane, Manlius, New York. She was preceded in death by her son, John Suter Hudson in 2015 and by her brother, William H. Fisher.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Patti's Funeral Service at Lancaster Friends Quaker Meeting, 110 Tulane Terrace, Lancaster, PA on Saturday, January 4, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. with Cindy Herr officiating. The family will greet everyone at a reception following the service. Private interment will be held at Philos Cemetery in Westernport, MD.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be sent to Lancaster Friends Quaker Meeting, 110 Tulane Terrace, Lancaster, PA 17603.

Previous Events

Service

JAN 4. 2:00 PM (ET)

Lancaster Friends (Quaker) Meeting House
110 Tulane Terrace
Lancaster, PA 17603

Tribute Wall



“ *Patricia Louise "Patti" Hudson*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM

WN

“ *Patti was like a breath of fresh air, always thinking of others and ways to bring joy to everyone. Her friendship meant a lot to us. With deepest sympathy to Suter and Linda and your family from Warren and Sandra (from Australia). We are so sorry for your loss.*

Warren Newman - January 04, 2020 at 02:21 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Patricia Louise "Patti" Hudson.*



January 02, 2020 at 12:14 AM

LR

“ *Patti was a kind, caring, giving person. She was a wonderful neighbor and friend to our family bringing joy and good vibes with every visit. She shared her love of creating gingerbread structures with all, and over the years provided hands-on sessions with my younger sister, my niece, and my daughter. She was friends with my mom since the early 1960's and their friendship deepened over the years. They had a strong spiritual connection that was particularly supportive to my mom in her later years. When mom passed, Patti extended her caring to my father. Much love to Suter and Linda and your family as you navigate this transition. Linda R.*



Linda Reekie - January 01, 2020 at 11:57 PM

CH

“ Dear Suter, Linda, Jerry and family. I am so sorry for your loss. I know Patti’s love is surrounding you and holding you in love, binding your souls together.

Cindy Herr

Cindy Herr - December 31, 2019 at 08:08 PM

LI

“ For Suter, how do we celebrate an undying love? I have witnessed your devotion as husband, father, grandfather and friend. Your lives were so full. Here are some photo keepsakes from the time in 1998 that you visited us in Austin, Texas.



lizanne - December 29, 2019 at 09:45 PM

LI

“ Our lives were blessed by the love and care of Patti Hudson. Somehow she had an inexhaustible supply of good cheer and healing energy. I delighted in her many successes as we were friends for more than 30 years. I’ll always remember her phone call that opened with, “Guess who is on the front page of the Wall Street Journal?” She created fun and delight for generations! My 3 daughters had the privilege of “Fairy Godmother” treatment in their lives. The magnitude of the love she shared now brings me to tears. Happy tears! I sensed the void that John’s passing left. He had helped her continue to create in the increasingly popular Gingerbread universe. What a loss. I am moved to share some photos from almost 20 years ago. She planned a fun party at Friendly’s for my husband Chuck who was turning 50 that year AND kept the girls overnight. Patti, ever in my heart, always on my mind.



lizanne - December 29, 2019 at 09:12 PM

JB

“ Linda - Holding you and all of your family - your dad, husband, your girls, your mom and your brother - prayerfully in the Light. We’ll see you next Saturday. Much Love, Jody Blouch

Jody Blouch - December 29, 2019 at 09:23 AM

CH

“ Linda, it has been a long time since we connected. I think of you often and consider you my best friend from our school days. May you have beautiful memories of your Mother (and brother). Condolences to you and your Dad.
Cindy Kilheffer Hudson (yes I married a Hudson !)

Cindy Kilheffer Hudson - December 29, 2019 at 08:58 AM

CS

“ I send my condolence to Patti's family, I did her hair for many years and she taught me how to make gingerbread houses with my grandson we did it every year , what a wonderful person she was.

Cheryl Stevenson - December 29, 2019 at 07:14 AM

JW

“ My heart goes out to Suter, Linda and family. Patti was my son's "fairy godmother" during his prolonged illness and a dear friend to my husband David and I. Her loving, positive way of seeing the world and BEing was infectious and endearing and healing. Patti was a treasure and I will cherish every memory, every smile and especially her eyes squeezed shut when her whole body giggled. How I love that laugh and how blessed we are to have her watching out for us in heaven.

Joan Wilson - December 29, 2019 at 06:07 AM

BF

I always think of Patti around this time of the year when I see Gingerbread houses. I helped her with her last printing of her cookbook. She was a lovely person and i am very happy our paths crossed. Sorry for your loss.

Brad Forrey - December 29, 2019 at 09:46 AM

LM

Linda, I have nothing but the warmest sweetest memories of your mother. She was such a welcoming, non-judgmental, loving, and generous person (like you) and always made me feel so accepted. I remember when my graduate school roommate lost her mom and described it as "the Grand Canyon of grief." That was certainly my experience when I lost my mother. You're much in my thoughts as you traverse the canyon. With love, Linda Metz

LINDA METZ - December 29, 2019 at 07:39 PM