



Donna (nee Porteus) Augustine

March 2, 1945 - August 3, 2019

Augustine - Donna (nee Porteus); wife, sister, mother, aunt, grandmother, great aunt, teacher and friend extraordinaire, passed away on August 3, 2019 after a brief but valiant battle with a Glioblastoma Brain Cancer.

Donna was born on March 2, 1945 in Hartford Connecticut and grew up in nearby Newington. She cared deeply for her family, friends and especially kids; and she loved animals and music. If you knew Donna, you probably know she had a song for every word or situation, would play Christmas music all year and once played Billy Joel for 9 hours straight during a family road trip. Throughout her life she was a teacher who specialized in special needs students and children at risk. Donna touched so many lives and we will all miss her big smile and kind heart every day.

Donna leaves behind her beloved husband of 51 years, Cesario Chet Augustine; her children Rick Augustine and Nicole Augustine Berkhouse; grandchildren Sam Augustine, Jessica Augustine, Lilly Berkhouse and Joey Berkhouse; brother John Porteus; sisters Mary Porteus Collins, Barbara Porteus and Beth Porteus Swonger and brother in-law Barry Collins.

In addition Donna leaves behind many nieces and nephews Erica Collins Jamieson, Lindsey Collins, Collin Porteus, Callie Porteus, Richard Swonger, Karli Swonger; great nieces and nephews Dylan, Darby and David Jamieson, Fox Scarborough and Jack Porteus; and her childhood best friend and cousin Hillery Britton Reed.

Connecticut Friends and Family:

On Friday, August 16th @ 11:00 am there will be a burial service where folks can pay respects, share memories or offer a prayer at St Mary's Cemetery, 1141 Stanley St (entrance on Corner of Stanley and Allen) Battalgia Plot - section H-1 extension

Orlando Friends and Family:

On Saturday, August 31st from 10 am to 12 noon there will be a Celebration of Life for Donna at Fairways Country Club, 14205 East Colonial Drive, Orlando FL 32826. Light fare and refreshments will be provided at the Club House (just past the Tennis Courts and Pool)

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for donations to the Glioblastoma Foundation. <https://glioblastomafoundation.org/get-involved/donate>

Donate Now - Glioblastoma Foundation

Donate Now We need your help to transform the standard of care for glioblastoma. Your donation will directly fund the development of novel drug therapies for glioblastoma.

glioblastomafoundation.org

Tribute Wall

BC

“ I had the pleasure and honor to work with Donna at Chiles Middle School. We shared students and experiences for all the years that we worked together. We continued to share our favorite books and authors in retirement. Who will I share these with now? She will be truly missed at our retirement luncheons. Rest in Peace, Donna.

Betsy Carpenter

Betsy Carpenter - August 16, 2019 at 01:37 PM

CV

“ As some of you may know, Donna and I were best of friends for a very long time. Throughout the years we shared our lives with one another. She truly was like a sister to me. I will dearly miss her and can't believe I will never see her again. As has been noted she was kind and loving and dedicated to her students. She loved animals and cared for and about them all her life. She became the matriarch of her family, always caring deeply about her grandchildren, children, sisters and brother and of course , husband Chet and cousin Hillary. In the end she was attacked by a terrible disease...she never had a chance and I never said goodbye.

Clara Verosky - August 12, 2019 at 11:24 AM

HC

“ Donna was my middle school teacher and since middle school and up my dear friend . Donna was so much more than a teacher to me. She was like family & I miss her already . She was an amazing woman in my life and so many others. She always cared for others, and they knew it. She always saw the bright side of everything. She believed in me when I didn't even know how to believe in myself and always made me feel special and valued. She joined my family at many events in my life growing up, and I will cherish every memory I have with her. My most treasured memories with Donna , is singing in the car with her when we went anywhere , saving baby squirrels if there nest fell , helping her out with her mom and her dog Rooney , and just always enjoying her company I love you Donna more then you can know , and I will always try to make you proud.

heidi corrado - August 10, 2019 at 05:55 PM