



## Margaret Sweany

April 4, 1928 - April 2, 2012

Margaret "Peggy" Sweany was born in Logansport, IN on a spring day in 1928. She died peacefully in her home surrounded by loved ones on a beautiful spring evening two days shy of her 84th birthday. As a young woman, Peggy was intrigued by engineering and architecture and her early talent for drawing drove her to be the first female drafting student in her high school. Her artistic talents encompassed both 2 and 3-dimensional work. Her first employment was as a photo studio technician, and she remained an avid photographer all her life. In the 1940's, Peggy moved to Indianapolis to attend John Herron School of Art where she met and married Indiana Artist, Paul J Sweany. Together they raised 4 daughters in an environment saturated by creativity, art and music. She taught them to see beauty in everything from rocks and textures, to light filtering through a canopy of leaves. She enjoyed camping, gardening, splitting wood, bird watching, building projects, and she was an excellent seamstress. Margaret was best known for her outstanding ceramic sculpture (especially of bears) and her colorful oil paintings. She taught clay courses at the Indianapolis Art Center, where she and Paul were active teacher/members for over 50 years. They retired to Bloomington in 1999. Her art is a tribute to a multi-talented individual and her love for architecture, nature, color and travel. Peggy was a driven

artist and an inspiration. She never, ever lost her sense of awe and actively worked on her art until only a few short days before her cardiac condition resulted in her earthly demise. Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, George & Jessie Marshall, her five siblings, Mable Leffert, Ruthie Angell, Arthur, John and George Marshall; her beloved nephew, Jack Leffert, and her husband, Paul J. Sweany. She is survived by her four loving daughters, Jessica (Jeff) Rutherford, Justyn (Ken) Wolf, Jenny (Vince) Stankiewicz, and Jaime Sweany; her dear friend Ransom Haile, her loving care-giver Rebecca Phillipson, and her best (canine) friend "Baby." She has nine beloved grandchildren, Lauren, Landon, Brian, Shane, Emily, Tobin, Tierney, Kayleen, and Savannah, and 9 great-grandchildren. There will be a private family service. In lieu of flowers, please send memorial donations in her name to Pets Alive, 2444 South Walnut Street Bloomington, IN 47401.

# Tribute Wall

SA

“ I only know Jaime but I worked with and knew Paul and Peggy many years ago when art fairs were fun. Or maybe because we were younger. I have fond memories and am making new ones with Jaime. Your family is in my heart and prayers. It's hard to lose a Mom.

God bless,  
Sandy

---

**Sandy Ezell** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM

CA

“ Dearest Jaime,

*I send my sincere condolences to you and your family at the death of your mother. How wonderful that she lived such a rich life but I don't think we are ever ready to say good-bye to those we love. My thoughts and love are with you.*

---

**Carol Shapiro** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM

CP

“ Sending caring thoughts and prayers to your family from George Harrington and Charlotte Harrington Pitts.

---

**Charlotte Harrington Pitts** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM

SE

“ Hello Jamie and Family,

*We are so sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. If there is anything we can do for you please let us know.*

*Peace be with you,*

*Scott & Erika Rudd*

---

**Scott & Erika Rudd** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM

SH

“ To the Sweany Daughters:

*I don't even know where to start. I had your Dad in a class, and we ended up as the Praed family visiting the Sweaney family. Your Dad was so very talented as an artist and as a friend. Your Mother was equally talented as an artist and as a mother and as a very good friend! We had lots of suppers at your house, went on zoo trips, etc. and strangely enough, yesterday, your mother was on my mind, and I had one of your phone #'s in Bloomington, considered calling, thinking to myself, I don't even know if she is still alive, picked up the paper this morning, and there she was! So...thank you for sharing your best friend with us and so many others. She was very loving, very giving, and also very, very talented!*

*Jack and Shirley Praed*

---

**Shirley Praed** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM

NO

“ Dear Jaime,

*I am so sorry for you to lose your dear mother. The short record of her life written here tells me why you are the wonderful and good person you are, and I'm sure your sisters too. I wish that i could have known her.*

*I'm thinking of you and sending sincere LOVE and uplifting energy to you during this sad time. . . . . Nora*

---

**Nora Kasten** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM

PA

“ Jaime and family,

*I am very saddened to hear of your mother's passing. Knowing you Jaime, and your passion for art and all things beautiful, I can say you are truly "your mother's daughter." She certainly passed on her legacy of art appreciation to you. You have been blessed to have grown up in an atmosphere so saturated with aesthetic appreciation. I hope that you will gain comfort and strength from cherished memories of the time you spent with your Mom.*

*Pam*

---

**Pam Newell** - October 26, 2015 at 04:18 PM