



Mary Elizabeth Hoagland

January 1, 1940 - April 29, 2022

Mary Elizabeth Shelby Hoagland died Friday April 29th after a brief but challenging battle with Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Mary was born on New Year's Day in 1940, the youngest of six children of Frank and Helen Shelby. She graduated as the salutatorian from Covington High School in 1958, and from Purdue University in 1962 with a degree in nutrition.

Mary was known for her sweet personality, good humor, and genuine selflessness. She greeted everyone with a smile and was welcoming to all who knew her. She inherited her mother's quick wit to make a point while remaining kind. She passed on her empathy, love of history, and passion for cooking to her children.

Family was the most important part of Mary's life. She spent much of her life on the farm which had been in her family for almost 200 years, so her roots and commitment to ancestry run deep. Mary loved to educate her younger relatives on their genealogy and memories of her childhood. She always looked forward to the large Shelby gatherings and was devoted to maintaining connections with new extended family members. She was famous for her strawberry jam, chocolate sheet cake, chili sauce, and being schedule challenged.

Mary was employed by Purdue University for over 25 years in different areas of food service in the residence halls. One of the favorite parts of the job for her was interacting with the students. She often would bring a foreign or out-of-state student to holiday celebrations so that they would not be alone in the

residence halls. Mary never met a stranger, and she used this skill to greet thousands of students in Purdue's cafeterias during her semi-retirement.

Mary is survived by her three children, Matthew (Jodi) Hoagland, Mark (Anne) Hoagland, and Rebecca (Richard) Blackburn, along with her brothers Bob Shelby and Don (Martha) Shelby, and sisters Virginia Bennett and Emma (Richard) Davis. She was also blessed with nine grandchildren and numerous caring nieces and nephews.

The family would like to express gratitude to Dr. Mark Dayton and his staff, IU Health Hospice, to the caring staff at Bell Trace Health & Living who ensured that Mary's final days were comfortable and peaceful, and to Allen Funeral Home of Bloomington.

Per her wishes, Mary will be cremated, and her ashes interred at a later date. She will be interred in the Bend Cemetery in her hometown of Covington, Indiana. The interment will be conducted by the Shelby Funeral Home of Covington.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org.

The Lord must have wanted to upgrade his strawberry jam, so he took her before this season's berries were ready to harvest.

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory, 4155 South Old State Road 37, Bloomington, have been entrusted with cremation services. Online condolences, photos, and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Tribute Wall

MB

“ I hope it’s not too late to pay my respects. I worked with Mary at Windsor Halls in the 90’s. My mom, Mary Ann Luce, worked with her in the residence halls as well and they became friends. My mom was also very fond of her daughter-in-law, Annie.

In recent years I enjoyed running into Mary at the West Lafayette farmers market and we would talk forever. I’ll miss those times. She would always tell me about her family, and how proud she was of them. I’ll always appreciate her friendship. God bless.

Mary Kay Berndt - March 26, 2023 at 01:13 PM

JL

“ Mary was a friend in Tri Kappa and a warm and sincere person. We had a lot in common and enjoyed working side by side . She was humble and quiet , but very smart and shared her expertise so softly you almost missed it. But I am happy and grateful to have known her and I will never forget her. It is good to know that her family holds her in high esteem. Juanita Linn

juanita Linn - May 07, 2022 at 03:44 PM

JB

“ What a lovely soul Mary possessed. She always showed such kindness and found the good in everyone. “Peace grant to her oh Lord and may perpetual light shine upon her.”

Joan Berryman - May 04, 2022 at 07:35 PM

MY

“ To Mary's Family,

I'm so sorry about Mary's death. My thoughts and prayers are with you. I knew Mary when I worked in the University Residences Director's Office in Smalley Center. I really like her photo here because it shows her beautiful smile and her genuinely sweet personality. I hope your many great family memories will help you through this difficult time. May God bless you.

Marilyn Yoder

Marilyn Yoder - May 04, 2022 at 03:26 PM

LM

“ *I got yo know Mary through Tri Kappa. She was my secretary during the 2yrs. that I was President of the Beta Assoc. Chapter of West Lafayette. I can remember many times when she would be getting ready to spend time with family or perhaps having a family member come to spend time with her. So proud of her family. I send my warmest condolences to the family, we will miss her.*

Lois Maickel

Lois maickel - May 04, 2022 at 10:25 AM

BT

“ I first met Mary when Rebecca was a student worker in the Meredith Dining Service.

One day Rebecca said to me that she thought a position in the Purdue Dining area would be a great place for her mother to work. It was wonderful to work with Mary as she shared stories about her family with us for many years. After she retired, she worked as a door checker for us at Windsor. I was amazed at the joy she found in the door checker position during her retirement years. Sincerely, Bobbi Thomas

Bobbi Thomas - May 02, 2022 at 06:30 PM

SJ

“ I hired Mary for her position in Residence Halls Food Service. She had a beautiful spirit. She was kind and gentle and loved the students. Her return to working as a door checker after her retirement surely reflects her relationships with the staff and the students there.

After we moved to Westminster, I would occasionally see her out walking in the neighborhood. It was always good visiting with her.

I remember how much she talked about and loved her family. Rebecca, I remember when you did a summer foodservice management internship at a dude ranch! And I remember how worried and concerned Mary was when one of her sons was in the military. I'm so glad she could be close to family in the end.

Sending my sympathy and prayers to all of Mary's family. May you find peace and ultimately joy in the memories you shared with her.

Sarah Johnson

Sarah Johnson - May 01, 2022 at 03:59 PM

KS

“ *My deepest condolences and sympathy to Mary's family. She was a ray of sunshine when I saw her in the dining hall at Purdue. I loved talking to her. She was an angel on earth and now in God's kingdom! May she rest in peace! May God comfort and give the family strength through the days ahead. Prayers and thoughts. You have many beautiful memories to share.*

Kathy Summerfield - May 01, 2022 at 07:51 AM

MB

“ *I remember Mary returning to work after her cancer surgery. She soldiered on so many days even when she got shingles. What a sweet, understanding person she was.*
Mary Jo Bennett

mary Jo Bennett - April 30, 2022 at 01:55 PM