



## Margaret Mary Neilio

July 1, 1951 - May 5, 2019

Margaret “Peg” Neilio of Menominee, MI passed away on May 5, 2019 in Lehigh Acres, FL, where she and her husband Bill have their winter home. Born on July 1, 1951 in Long Island, NY, and raised in Milwaukee, WI, Peg made it to the age of 67 years young. Peg was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and dear friend to many. She was an emotionally and physically strong woman who fought cancer with all her might for almost two years.

Peg grew up in a very large family in Milwaukee and graduated from Whitnall High School in 1969. She dabbled in college for a short time, where fate brought her together with her BFF, Jean Grube. She then served in the Air Force during the Vietnam Era. Peg married her husband Bill in December of 1974, and with their two children lived in the Milwaukee area until they eventually moved to Greenfield Center, NY. There they lived and raised their family for almost 20 years.

Peg worked in a variety of fields during her career. A large part of her life was spent as a company education and training manager at Quad/Graphics in Saratoga Springs, NY. In 2000, she completed a bucket list item, earning her bachelor’s degree from Charter Oak State College in Connecticut, and shortly thereafter pursued a new career at the University at Albany Economics Department.

Eventually Peg and Bill moved back to Wisconsin for a short time, and finally settled on the shore of Green Bay in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Peg

took a job with the Wisconsin Department of Corrections (then her stories really became interesting!).

Peg adored her children and grandchildren. She loved music, traveling, walking and running, sailing on Lake Champlain during her time in NY, kayaking at her house on Green Bay, swimming (even when it was too cold for anyone else to jump in,) camping, reading, gardening, quilting, and she even loved yard work and raking her beach. She checked off another bucket list item—completing a marathon—and was so proud of the accomplishment she went on to complete another one. After two marathons she realized half marathons and 5Ks were her preference. She loved chick movies, bon fires, and always always had music playing in the house. She could crush you in a game of Scrabble. She loved her friends as if they were family, and she could make anyone feel like she was their biggest fan.

Most of all, Peg loved to laugh.

Left behind to cherish Peg's memories are her husband and best friend of 44 years, Bill Neilio; daughter Sarah (Neilio) Francisco of Williston, Vermont; son Nick Neilio of South Korea; son-in-law Steve Francisco; grandchildren Olivia and George Francisco; siblings Maureen Bakken (Bud), Bob Reynolds (Sandy), Eileen Reynolds, Kathleen Heming (Bruce), Brian "Rocky" Reynolds (Crisse), Tim Reynolds (Mary); sisters- and brothers-in-law Pat Reynolds, John Neilio (Mary), Pat and Judy Neilio, Jane Dantine, Pete Neilio, Paul and Chris Neilio; nieces and nephews; dearest friend Jean Grube, and so many friends we could never list them all in the amount of space on this page. Peg was predeceased by her parents, John and Marcella (Binder) Reynolds, and her brother Jack Reynolds.

Peg's family would especially like to thank her doctors, nurses, and staff at Bellin Cancer Center of Green Bay who helped Peg through her battle, constantly giving her and her family hope and optimism despite the reality of her diagnosis.

Given that her life was filled with joy and happiness, Peg thought a sad funeral or burial just wouldn't do. Instead, a celebration of Peg's life well lived will take

place at a future date to be announced. In lieu of flowers, please consider signing your organ donor card, giving the gift of life to others if need be. Donations to your local branch of the American Lung Association would also be welcome and would go toward fighting the battle for others. Go outside and enjoy the day, thinking of Peg.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Margaret Mary Neilio*

October 09, 2023 at 02:01 AM



“ *Margaret Mary Neilio*

January 28, 2023 at 12:09 PM



“ *Oh my dear Peg...you will be missed. our friendship at Quad was so special. Hugs to Bill, Sarah and Nick and family...my heart is breaking at your loss. Loved teaching with Peg at Quad. Loved the leadership you both had as you taught the leadership course at Y camp on shore of Lake George. Bill, know how missed Peg will be. Prayers and wonderful memories*

**Debbie and Rich Colozza** - May 09, 2019 at 06:33 PM



“ *2 files added to the album Memories Album*



**Leon Yu** - May 09, 2019 at 04:40 PM

KB

“ Peg and my sister, Sally Bouton, were very close friends, and Sally loved Peg with all her heart. How could you not? When my sister passed away unexpectedly, Peg was there. Peg not only came to the service for Sally, but took on the role of “sister” for me. She showed me how to find joy despite my loss, and to look at every single day as a gift. Sally passed six years ago, but Peg remained one of my biggest cheerleaders despite her own challenges, and her words of wisdom will always be treasured. Our one-of-a-kind Peg will be missed, but her joy will live on forever.  
(funny - I made a typo which said that her joy will “love” on forever.. they are both accurate)

---

**Katy Bouton** - May 09, 2019 at 09:36 AM

KA

“ It's the little things you remember that make you smile. First couple days working together I saw her middle initial was M, I said "Margaret Mary?" she smiled, I said "Kathleen Mary here, your mom was hoping for a nun too?" We talked about anything and everything. I will miss our road trips, girls weekends, camping with the guys. So many memories. Bill, Sarah, Nick, hugs and love to you and your entire family. Kathy

---

**Kathy** - May 09, 2019 at 12:08 AM

JJ

“ I met Peg in 1974, the same year I met Carl. We shared lots of times wrangling our husbands into some semblance of respectable adults. Sometimes we were even successful.

*I remember being quite impressed when Peg started writing a column for the Herald-Leader back in the day. That seemed like such a daunting task to me! Of course, she nailed it!*

*Peggy was so fearless and strong that it seems funny now to think about how often we bonded over our mutual clumsiness. Various bumps and bruises obtained in goofy "accidents" always provided fodder for interesting conversation and plenty of laughs. But, I have to admit, NO ONE could fall down a flight of stairs quite as thoroughly as Peg!*

*Peg was always so willing to help. When I was the Program Coordinator for CASA of Menominee County, Peg served on the Governing Board. She worked tirelessly to make the organization strong and effective. Her dedication was second to none. And it meant the world to me!*

*Bill, Sarah, and Nick, we are thinking of you all. Hope it somehow helps you to know that, despite our deep sorrow, we cannot help but smile every time we think of Peg!*

---

Joy Johnson - May 08, 2019 at 08:11 PM

LY

“ I felt an instant bond with Peg from the first day I met her! I valued her opinion. She was my confidant and biggest supporter in my life. That is no small feat! Her intelligence and unwavering support during some tough years help guide me and gave me strength. On a lighter note, we shared so many laughs over our different cultural backgrounds! I took her to the Gulf to my favorite beach. At the time she said she had never been on a beach that didn't have rocks! I was shocked but at the same time realized that I had never been on a beach that had rocks. She always welcomed me into her home and I did the same when she was in Georgia. I can't even begin to express what she meant to me. I feel privileged to have known her and call her friend. I am overwhelmed by her death. I just wouldn't accept that the strongest woman I have ever known wouldn't beat cancer! I just want Bill, Sarah and Nick to know that you are in my thoughts and prayers. Also the southern magnolias that she loved are in full bloom now. It seems the perfect tribute to Peg' s beautiful soul.

---

Lynn Yates - May 08, 2019 at 01:48 PM

ER

“ I'll go first. Sarah you did a really nice job on this/ I thank you with all my heart...

*I will miss my sister Peggy more than I can eloquently say here but suffice to say it will hurt for a long time to come just like it did with Jack...*

*Peggy watched over me as a child, helped me immensely growing up, especially in early high school as mom died the summer before I started. That was the hardest year of my life and will cherish her mentor ship towards me. We were close and far at times but always got ourselves back to each other. We had fun, laughs, fights but always managed to patch it back together. We had some great adventures as adult sisters and one of my fondest memories was her taking me to Door County for a birthday and we ran into Pat's sister Barb and got to see her new place in Door County. That trip is one fab memory....I am going to keep those kinds of happy memories in my head while I get time on my side to get through....As I always lovingly called her Puggy and she called me Elaine, I will think of the brave fierce warrior she's been through all of this unwinnable fight. Go Puggy go...I'm so glad you got to the end of the race*

*Elaine* ❤️

---

**Eileen E. Reynolds** - May 08, 2019 at 01:39 PM

SG

*Peg and I shared wonderful fun times while working together at Quad/education. She was always a breath of fresh ideas, acts of kindness and just being silly! Always a part of my happy memories.*

---

**sue Graushar** - May 09, 2019 at 11:42 AM

BO

*Wow..No one could never say that Peg didn't live a Very Fulfilled and Adventurous life. The Fairways III family in FL didn't get to be long time friends of Peg, but it was an honor to have been a friend for a short time. The last 2 seasons being in FL during her illness showed us all the strength of a woman. We will miss Peg and her love of life and will have open arms for Bill's return to Fairways III next season. We send our very best to Bill, Sarah and Nick along with love to ALL of the families.*

*Hugs Bob and Jan*

---

**Bob and Jan Oyer** - May 09, 2019 at 02:41 PM

LY

*I loved working with Peg (and Bill) during my time in Saratoga, but they were a lot more fun outside of work! So, in the spirit of remembering the good times, I'll post a couple photos from 1988. I think they are from Joe Schick's house warming party. This is how I will remember Peg.*

---

**Leon Yu** - May 09, 2019 at 05:38 PM