



Naomi K. Rauff

May 17, 1938 - April 27, 2023

Naomi K. Rauff of Dalton, MA passed away peacefully in her home on Thursday, April 27, 2023, with her children at her side. She was a few weeks shy of celebrating her 85th birthday and was an almost decade-long cancer survivor.

Naomi was born May 17, 1938, in Yonkers, NY to the late Charles and Annette (Peterson) Winter. She was a graduate of Concordia College, Bronxville majoring in education, and received a Master's Degree in Special Education from Washington University in St. Louis.

Naomi was a lifelong teacher and administrator. She worked at the Jewish Guild for the Blind in New York City, and at College Park School in CA among several other institutions. In her retirement she was a volunteer teacher and tutor at St. Agnes Academy in Dalton. It was her privilege to continue her career as an educator by donating her body to Boston University Medical School to continue to serve students in their learning.

She was also an active volunteer who cared deeply about her church and community. She was a board member, confirmation teacher and choir singer at Zion Lutheran Church in Pittsfield. She was a member of PEO (Philanthropic Educational Organization) Chapter V, and a board member of the College Club. She belonged to the Red Hat Damsels of Dalton, was a

former board member of the Dalton Council on Aging where she founded the Keep Dalton Walking Project, and served as a board member and chaplain for the First Resistance Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. She also enjoyed decades of participation in the Sweet Adelines International singing society in both the Berkshires and CA as a board member and chorus, octet and quartet participant.

Naomi is survived by her loving and forever grateful children, Dawn (Richard) Tucksmith of Chatham, NY, Mark Gutheil of Brooklyn, NY and Caitlin (Doug Welch) Gutheil of Portland, ME, her beloved grandchildren Ian, Annika, Liam, Charlotte and Robin Tucksmith and Genevieve Welch, her dear sister and brother-in-law Deborah (Winter) and William Alexander, and other deeply cared for family, and a cherished circle of friends. She will be greatly missed by all who were blessed to know her.

Naomi's life and eternal passage will be honored at a Memorial Service at Zion Lutheran Church, Pittsfield, MA on Sat. May 6 at 11:00 am with coffee hour to follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Naomi's memory may be made to Zion Lutheran Church in Pittsfield (zionlutheranpittsfield.org) Lutheran Bible Translators (lbt.org), Friends of the Dalton Public Library (daltonlibrary.org), or the Denise Kaley Fund for Berkshire County Women with Cancer (berkshiretaconic.org)

Previous Events

Service

MAY 6. 11:00 AM (ET)

Zion Lutheran Church
74 First St.
Pittsfield, MA

Tribute Wall

CM

“ Dear Children of Naomi Rauff, I recently learned of your dear mother's passing. I knew Naomi when she and I worked at the Jewish Guild for the Blind and attended her wedding to Ed. We enjoyed many lunches talking about the Bible and books we read, as I too was a reader. She and I kept in touch mainly though the years via snail mail, but talked a couple of years ago by phone. Naomi was so sweet. I was just telling some family members one of my memories of Naomi. She and I had to eat lunch in her classroom at JGB because of her lunch hour and a student came in. The student was frustrated because a fellow student was touching her belongings and she was not kind to the "offending student." Naomi told her, "Suzie, people first, things second." Connie Murphy

Constance M Murphy - January 07, 2024 at 03:14 PM

SS

“ When my dearest friend, Naomi, came to the beautiful Berkshire Hills, it was my good fortune to be one of the first to welcome her and to introduce her to one of her many loves, The Berkshire Hills Chorus of Sweet Adelines. From our first meeting I knew that we would become fast and devoted friends. We traveled together, found new adventures, shared joys and sorrows and enjoyed each other's lives. We became sisters in spirit and song. I will cherish fond memories and remember the many blessings that she shared with me. Thank you, dear friend. Now you can share your sweet voice with other Sweet Adeline angels as you rest in peace.

BFF

Sue

Susan Salvini - April 30, 2023 at 11:58 AM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray was purchased for the family of Naomi K. Rauff.*



April 29, 2023 at 02:39 PM



“ *Charles W. purchased a sympathy card for the family of Naomi K. Rauff.*



Charles W. - April 29, 2023 at 02:28 PM



“ *Sweet Naomi volunteered for many cherished years with my Elderhostel programs, when we began our friendship. That deepened again while she was home bound and we shared discussion of spiritual books. She warmly urged me to make community at Zion Lutheran Church, where I will always sense the hovering of her angel wings.*
With love and gratitude, Lynette Cornwell

Lynette Cornwell - April 29, 2023 at 11:31 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Naomi K. Rauff.*



April 29, 2023 at 10:08 AM



“ *Love, Missy purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Naomi K. Rauff.*



Love, Missy - April 28, 2023 at 09:50 PM



“ *Love Missy purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Naomi K. Rauff.*



Love Missy - April 28, 2023 at 09:50 PM