



## Catherine Kane Whitbeck

May 16, 1948 - January 26, 2011

Catherine Kane Whitbeck, 62, of Hudson , passed away January 26, 2011 at Columbia Memorial Hospital after a courageous ten year battle with breast cancer.

She was born on May 16, 1948 in Hudson to the late Cornelius H. Kane and Marguerite (Alonge) Kane who survives. She was a graduate of Hudson High School (Class of 1966), Skidmore College (BA English, 1970) and Colgate University (MAT 1971). At Colgate, Cathie was in the group of the first female students to attend the University.

Cathie was a beautiful person who loved her family and friends unconditionally and lived her life with a rare passion for the many causes that interested her. During her thirty year career with Questar III, she touched the lives of thousands of high school aged students who knew that they could always look to her as a counselor and advocate. Cathie was instrumental in establishing a permanent college scholarship fund for Columbia and Greene County graduates of Questar with the financial help of Paul and Judy Grunberg and the T. Backer Community Fund.

She also was a member of the Board of the Hudson Opera House, lately serving as Secretary. She devoted much of her last years toward fund raising efforts and programming for children and young adults at the Opera House.

Cathie believed in her community and was very proud of the contribution that the restoration of the Opera House has had on the rejuvenation of the downtown area in Hudson. She was also a Trustee for the Hudson Children's Foundation and was formerly a member of the Columbia County Parole Board.

Cathie was inspired by the changing landscape of the Hudson Valley and cherished her beloved Mount Merino home and her picture perfect river view where she spent endless hours entertaining family and friends. During the summer months she would trade her Hudson Valley comforts for days spent relaxing on the beaches of Popponesset, an Irish community in Cape Cod, where family was paramount.

Catherine was the beloved wife of Carl G. Whitbeck, Jr.; devoted mother of Carl G. Whitbeck III (Gabriella Thiele) of Ridgefield, Connecticut; Caitlin H. Whitbeck (David Fisher) of Manhattan; John V. Whitbeck II and Charles L. Whitbeck of Albany, New York; loving sister of Cornelius H. Kane, Jr. (Ellen Mahoney) of Hull, Massachusetts; George Kane (Laurie Clark) of Scituate, Massachusetts and Guy L. Kane of Lenox, Massachusetts. She was the loving grandmother of Alexandra Grace Whitbeck and Jackson Kane Whitbeck. Also surviving are many cousins, nieces and nephews.

As an exceptional role model, Cathie worked tirelessly to instill appropriate values for her children and grandchildren. She will live on in their memory.

Visiting hours will be at Bates & Anderson, 110 Green Street, Hudson, New York, on Friday, January 28, 2011, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Services will be conducted at St. Mary's Church in Hudson on Saturday,

January 29, 2011, at 11:00 am.

Interment will be in Cedar Park Cemetery .

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Hudson Opera House, 327 Warren Street, Hudson , New York 12534 , or the Columbia-Greene Hospital Foundation, 71 Prospect Avenue , Hudson , New York 12534.

# Tribute Wall

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“ *Our deepest sympathy to Giffy, Margareite and family. Cathy was a wonderful women and a true inspiration. She and I had many conversations about life and family. She will be at peace and she and Aunt Anna will be looking over all of you, God Bless*

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**Maria Fisher** - January 27, 2011 at 07:38 PM