



Eleanor "Ellie" Close

February 24, 1938 - October 22, 2024

Eleanor H. "Ellie" Close, 86, passed away Tuesday October 22, 2024. Born February 24, 1938 in Hudson, NY, she is the daughter of Milford and Maccina (Krocanus) Dunspaugh.

Ellie grew up in Hudson where she was active in the Girl Scouts and 4H, and lived most of her adult life in Churchtown, NY with her husband Lyle. She graduated from Hudson High School Class of 1955, then from Albany Business College in 1959. On June 11, 1960, she married Lyle Thomas Close. Ellie's career at Columbia Memorial Hospital began in 1967 in the Medical Records Department. She then became Executive Secretary to the President in 1972, and for over 20 years held that position until her retirement in 1994. Ellie was active with the Hospital Auxiliary, as Secretary to the Board of Directors for many years, and was awarded an Honorary Lifetime Membership for her service. She was also highly active with the Columbia County United Way and was nominated to its Board of Trustees in 1984. Ellie was a charter member of the Apple Valley Chapter of the Sweet Adelines Women's Barbershop Quartet Chorus and performed with them for 10 years from 1975-1985. After retirement in July of 1994, Ellie enjoyed taking day trips with the Hudson Trippers Group and Greenport Senior Citizens, spending time at home with her grandchildren, and then after a year, went back to the Medical Records Department as a volunteer. Ellie will be fondly remembered for her happy personality, bright orange lipstick, and flaming red hair.

Ellie is survived by her son Thomas (Linda) Close, daughter Karen (Phil)

Stodolski, grandchildren Kevin, Brian, Nicholas and Mariana, along with several nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Ellie is predeceased by her husband Lyle, and sister Barbara Card. In accordance with Ellie's wishes, a private family service will held. Ellie's family will be forever grateful for the care and compassion shown to her during her time at Ivy Lodge in Saugerties, and by Hudson Valley Hospice. Contributions in memory of Ellie are encouraged to be made to the Columbia-Greene Humane Society.

Tribute Wall

PP

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I worked with Ellie for many years at Columbia Memorial Hospital. She always had a smile for everyone and so willing to help. I have many fond memories of Ellie. May she rest in peace.
Love Pat Palen

Patricia Palen - December 20, 2024 at 11:38 PM

DV

“ Ellie was always smiling. She will be greatly missed by all who knew her.



Deborah Vandenburg - October 24, 2024 at 10:19 AM

PK

“ Pam R. Kline lit a candle in memory of Eleanor Close



Pam R. Kline - October 23, 2024 at 11:12 PM