

GHR 7-28-2011

## Patricia C. Prouty

9/25/1946 - 7/19/2011

On Tuesday, July 19, 2011, Patricia Prouty (64) of Edgewater, MD, passed away peacefully at home after a fierce battle with pancreatic cancer. As in all moments of her life, she was surrounded by her family and friends.

Pat was born in Iowa and graduated from Grinnell High School, class of '64. She was predeceased by her beloved mother Agnes Elizabeth Paulsen (nee Jensen) and her father Dwight William Paulsen. She is survived by her husband Jack, her daughters



Allison and Amanda, her brother Jack Paulsen, four nieces and nephews, and scores of cousins and friends.

A Midwesterner by birth, Pat was a "citizen of the world," constantly exploring new places, delving into new experiences, and cultivating new - and lasting - friendships. However, she never forgot her roots and frequently returned to Iowa to visit family and friends. After graduation she moved to California and started her career as a flight attendant. It was there that she met and married Jack Prouty, had her two daughters, and began her new career as a full-time mother and community volunteer. In 1986, Jack was hired by Younkers as part of their new management team, which brought Pat back to her roots. While in Iowa she served on the Board of Children and Families of Iowa. She left Iowa in 1992; in 1999 her youngest daughter entered Grinnell College, completing the Iowa circle.

Although her achievements were many, Pat was proudest of being mother to two exceptional daughters, Allison and Amanda. Their accomplishments, adventures, and misadventures were among her favorite topics of conversation. She loved her daughters deeply.

A lifelong philanthropist, Pat devoted her energy, time, talent, vision, and resources to enriching the world around her. She was passionate about causes of justice, human rights, and quality of life and was actively engaged in issues such as HIV/Aids, homelessness, the welfare of children, race relations, and women's rights.

Pat loved life. She had an insatiable curiosity and a vast range of interests: food, theater, books, films, current events, and the lives of those she loved. Her sense of style was legendary - a friend described her as a "bird of paradise in a flock of sparrows and wrens." Pat's effervescent personality and her capacity to love long and love well drew scores of friends into her life. Each has been touched in a positive and lasting way by Pat's wit, wisdom, grace and fierce loyalty. Each will miss her and treasure their special - and often hilarious - "Patsy Moments."

A celebration of the life of Pat Prouty will be held in August in Annapolis, MD. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Children and Families of Iowa, 1111 University Ave, Des Moines, IA 50314