



Patricia Ann (O'Connell) Sullivan

October 11, 1946 - May 20, 2012

Patricia Ann (O'Connell) Sullivan, 65, died unexpectedly on Sunday, May 20, 2012. A lifelong resident of Toledo, Pat was raised in the South End by John & Edith O'Connell. After attending Immaculate Conception (Darby) School and St. Ursula Academy, she distinguished herself as the family's first college graduate, earning a BSN degree from the University of Toledo after completing a program at the Mercy School of Nursing.

In the course of a 48 year nursing career, Pat inspired the trust, respect, and gratitude of her patients and colleagues with her unwavering compassion, her breadth of expertise, and her uncompromising devotion to the principles of her profession. She began her career at Mercy Hospital, caring for patients in the ICU, CCU, and Clinic. She joined the ICU staff at The Toledo Hospital in 1981 before moving to the role of Critical Care Clinical Educator. In 1988, Pat began offering her care to SICU patients at the University of Michigan. In the most recent 12 years, she served as a Clinical Care Coordinator at the U of M's adult liver transplant center.

Pat was the matriarch, role model, and anchor of her extended family. She and her loving husband and companion, Dennis Sullivan, were blessed with three children, Bridgett (Erich) Emhuff, Brian (Kelly) Sullivan, and Maureen (Ken) Freeman. Grandchildren Colin, Meghan, Aidan, Fiona, Jack, Brennan, and Samantha were the pride and joy of her later life.

Pat cherished her relatives, and she was also an adored and devoted member

of a second family, a circle of intimate and loving friends, many of whom were at her side when she passed.

Her remarkably active life was punctuated by showering her family with gifts (she loved to shop), by visits to the gym, reading, travel with family and friends, stops at Starbucks, and Sunday afternoon family gatherings.

She was preceded in death by her parents John & Edith O'Connell, brother, Jackie O'Connell, sister, Linda Vayda, and her uncle, Joe O'Connell.

Pat leaves her family, friends, and patients with a legacy of compassion, generosity, strength, integrity, righteousness, loyalty, and enduring love. Those touched by Pat's virtue will be honored to carry her treasured influence to future generations. Pat will live with us forever.

Family and friends may visit at the Coyle Funeral Home, 1770 S. Reynolds Rd., on Wednesday from 2-8 p.m. A Memorial service will be held on Thursday, in the mortuary, at 10 a.m.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the University of Michigan Transplant Center, Patient Assistance Fund, 300 N. Ingalls, Room 2C40, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-5451.

Tribute Wall

JO

“ I met Pat at the former Mercy Hospital during my first week out of residency in Toledo in 1981. She was in charge of the Outpatient clinic. I was very impressed with the diligence, competence and compassion she displayed in all aspect of nursing in putting together weekly specialist eye clinic for the clinic patients. Her holistic approach to the patient became my model for practicing medicine. For that I'm deeply indebted to her for ever. She validated and affirmed me by giving me the privilege to become not only her family's Eye Physician but also a family friend. I will miss our conversations and briefing updates on the rest of the family whenever we ran into each other at the gym.

Needless to say I was devastated when I learned of her passing several months later. Though Pat is no longer with us in this physical world, her love and humanity and the many lessons her exemplary life that those of us who knew and worked with her imbibed by association and osmosis will forever live on.

My wife and I hope that for Pat's family, the many happy times and memories that you all shared together will uphold and strengthen you all through the difficult times from sunrise to sunset.

Jason & Comfort Ofori.

Jason Ofori - April 01, 2013 at 11:25 AM



“ We just learned of Pat's sudden passing and were shocked and saddened by this news. Pat was Joe's nurse at U of M Medical Center for several years. We cannot say enough about her caring approach toward both of us. While she was no longer assigned to Joe, we ran into her when we were at the hospital in January, and had a lovely chat with her. She will be missed tremendously by her patients who always knew she was there for them. Our deepest condolences to Pat's family on your loss.

Joe & Judy##imported-begin##Joe & Judy Salminen##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I was very sorry to learn of Pat`s sudden death. We worked together in the SICU at U of Michigan, and I remember her calm demeanor and confidence in caring for her patients. Please accept my heartfelt condolences and best wishes for many happy memories.##imported-begin##Chris Wisniewski##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I'm very sorry for Pat's family and friends. I mainly knew Pat over the phone - whenever we worked together to get a patient scheduled for a procedure. I can only imagine in person she was every bit as nice.##imported-begin##John Whelan jswhelan@umich.edu##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I met Pat in 1964 and am honored to call "O'Connell" a dear friend for 48 years. My heart is heavy as tears flow for I know I will miss her smile, laugh, friendship, and presence. She was part of a special group of friends who met every third weekend in May. We will miss you my friend. Love to her family and friends.##imported-begin##Carol Terrasi Buckenmeyer carol@ninthbrain.com##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Dear Denny and Family
Our deepest synmpathies go out to you, Pat and I went to school together(Kathye), lot's of good darby Memories, Doug and I will always remember our younger years with you and Pat, more good memories, Our thoughts and prayers go out to you.,
Kathye & Doug##imported-begin##kathye & Doug Zaper zaperka@aol.com##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Pat
You touched many people's lives and supported them when they needed somebody the most. You were a very kind hearted, positive and compassionate individual. I am glad that God gave me a chance to work with you. I always considered you my friend, my mentor and my coffee buddy....! I am going to miss you. May your soul rest in peace!!! May God give us all strength and courage to endure your loss!!!!
Pratima##imported-begin##Pratima##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I am so sorry for the sudden loss of a great lady/friend. I worked with Pat for 8 years. Her passing will not only leave a void in many lives, but in the hearts of all of us who truly loved her dearly. I was had the opportunity to go out for dinner with Pat, her husband, and other friends just last week. Thank you for the wonderful memories, the great times, and your caring heart. I love you Pat, and will miss you dearly.

Gina L. Arthur##imported-begin##Gina Arthur##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry for your loss. Heaven has received many great angels in the past few months. I know your mom will be welcomed by them with open arms. Your family is in our thoughts and prayers.##imported-begin##Joellen & Regan Bohm##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Denny and Family,
What can we say that we haven't said in the last few days. There are no words to express how we feel over Pat's death. We feel blessed to have been rewarded with our friendship and will certainly remember all of the good times, especially our last trip to Mexico this past winter.

Love, Barb and Joe##imported-begin##Barb and Joe Marquis##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Denny & Family Please accept our condolences on your sudden loss. Pat will be greatly missed as she was a good friend and inspiration to all.*

Sincerely Jack & Vicki Roth##imported-begin##Jack & Vicki Roth##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Pat was a truly, compassionate, empathic, fundamentally geniune person. I had the priviledge of working with and learning from Pat in SICU. Pat touched many lives with her gentle demeanor yet "can do attitude". She will truly be missed by all. My heartfelt condolences to family and friends.##imported-begin##Kathy Baptist##imported-end##*

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Pat and I were classmates at Mercy School of Nursing. I can imagine what a wonderful, caring nurse she must have become with that start. She looks the same as when we were students. I recently lost my beloved husband suddenly so know what Pat's husband and family are feeling in her loss. God Bless You and keep Pat's memory close to your heart.*

Helen Mangus Thompson##imported-begin##Helen Mangus Thompson##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We sure will miss you, Pat. We send our love & prayers to Denny & family.##imported-begin##Kathy & Terry Bishop bishop_curley@yahoo.com##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Bridget and family, So sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you. Your Mom was special and compassionate. I know it's very hard right now, but do remember the good and fun times. That's the way she would want it. Love and God bless##imported-begin##Sally Speelman##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Pat will be truly missed by us. The fun and laughs are uncountable. The trips, the St. Patty's parties to redoing the kitchen at the condo. Denny and children and grandchildren our thoughts and prayers are with you. She was one of a kind. The great times will be with us forever. Denny... Fred loves you and will always be there for you. We are a phone call away.##imported-begin##Fred and Kendra Neumann Kendraneuman13@hotmail.com##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My prayers and thoughts goes out to the family and friends. I had the pleasure of working with Pat at the U of M in the clinic of Liver Transplant (Pre and Post). She was always very helpful to the clerical staff. She will be missed. Rest In Peace Pat.##imported-begin##Nancy Kegley nkegley@med.umich.edu##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *The O'leary side of the family new Patti was an O'connell but really did not be come acquainted with her until Joe's Funeral.Patti was very proud of her family and always had a smile for everyone. Sorry that over the years we did not become better aquainted as Patti seemed like an up beat person. I'm truly sorry tha she went so suddenly . We are sorry that we cannot arrange our schedual to attend the memorial. You are in my thoughts and prayers. Lenore Merckel###imported-begin##Lenore O'Leary Merckel kenmerckel@yahoo.com###imported-end##*

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Denny
I am so sorry for the loss of pat.
It is going to be hard for you but you have your
kids and grandkids who will always be a blessing to you.
They are apart of you and pat and you have been lucky to have all
those fun memories.
Hang in there and know that you have alot
of friends that will help you too.
Love to you and your family. Debbie###imported-begin##debbie
zanter jacob###imported-end##*

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ *Dear Denny and family
Fred and I were so sorry to hear of Pat's sudden passing! She was
a wonderfu lady and we will always remember the fun we had in
Puerto Vallarta. Please know we are thinking of you and your whole
family at this time. Praying for you....Fred and Linda
Smith###imported-begin##Fred and Linda Smith###imported-end##*

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Pat was always so supportive and loving. Truly a great person that will be missed by all that knew her.
Thanks for all the memories Pat, and for all of your encouraging words!##imported-begin##Craig Bettis##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ We are so sorry to hear of the passing of Pat. She was a wonderful person. We will always remember our trip with you all to Florida in 2001. Pat is in such a wonderful place now and will be with you all. Love, Troy, Alicia, Blake and Landon Wood##imported-begin##Troy and Alicia Wood##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Pat will surely be missed. She was my mentor in critical care, teaching me the logical understandings of advanced anatomy and physiology. Pat later encouraged me to complete my bachelors degree and apply for the educator position she left. I am so happy that our life paths crossed. My prayers are for her family in hopes that they will have peace. Denise Abbott, RN, MSED, CEN##imported-begin##Denise Abbott ddabbott@hotmail.com##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Denny, family and extended Mercy Family,

I am very sorry to hear of Pat's passing. My condolences and thoughts are with you all at this time

Sincerely

Pat Mahoney##imported-begin##Pat Mahoney pmahoneyuapt@aol.com##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Words cannot express how much you will be missed. You have touched the lives of many staff and patients.

Prayers to your family and friends that they get through this rough time.

You will be missed Pat##imported-begin##wendy tow wcollin@umich.edu##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM

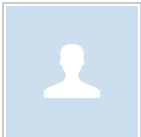


“ Dear Sullivan family and friends,
It is with my deepest sympathy that I express to you my condolences for the loss of Pat. I was part of the SICU family at the University of Michigan that was fortunate to work with Pat. Pat and I worked together for many years before we both left for ambulatory care. I still had the pleasure of seeing Pat in the hallways when we were in ambulatory care. I will always cherish the conversations that we shared. Pat’s passing is a tragedy. She symbolized and defined what it meant to be a nurse and a friend. Pat taught me how to be a nurse. In fact, Pat taught a lot of nurses what it meant to be a nurse – kind, caring, knowledgeable, empathetic, comprehensive and noble to name a few traits. She has touched many lives and has made a huge impact on the nursing profession. We were lucky to have her in our lives. I just wanted you to know that she will be forever in our hearts. Her legacy will continue through the work of the nurses that have learned from Pat.

With deepest sympathy,

Anne##imported-begin##Anne McLeod
mcleoda@med.umich.edu##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ Pat was a wonderful person and a great nurse. I'll always be thankful to her for all the help she gave me with my transplant study subjects. She'll be remembered in all of our hearts. My prayers and thoughts are with her family at this most difficult time.##imported-begin##Terri Howell thowell@umich.edu##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ My deepest Sympathy to Dennis and family, Pat was a wonderful person and will be missed by everyone whose heart she touched.##imported-begin##Pat Snuggs##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ May the Lord's arms hold you tenderly as you did with all your patients. Your work is done. Rest in Peace. Susie##imported-begin##Susan Suter Anderson Seitz##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM



“ I was so sorry to hear of Pat passing away. She was always very kind to me at the Transplant Clinic. My thoughts and prayers are with her family.##imported-begin##Mary Jo Grimmette##imported-end##

May 20, 2012 at 12:00 AM