



## PAULA J. MURPHY

April 21, 1944 - September 16, 2023

MEMORIAL DONATIONS MAY BE MADE IN PAULA'S NAME TO:

ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S RESEARCH HOSPITAL  
501 ST. JUDE PLACE  
MEMPHIS, TN 38105-9959  
[www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org)

OR:

PLANTING A TREE IN HER NAME  
[www.alivingtribute.org](http://www.alivingtribute.org)

MEMORIAL VISITATION:  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023  
2PM TO 4PM  
STICKLE-SOLTESZ FUNERAL HOME

Paula Jean Murphy unexpectedly passed away on September 16th, 2023. Paula was born in Fall River, Massachusetts to Edward and Vivian Kelley. She spent her early life raising her children in New Jersey before spending later years and eventually passing in Cape Coral, Florida.

Paula grew up in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ with siblings Peter, Susan, and Rick, graduating from Ridgewood High School. She married Richard Armstrong where they had Scott, Kelley, and Amy, before extending the family with Dennis, Jeff, and Margaret after marrying Robert Decker. Paula dedicated her life and love to her six children as a full-time matriarch of the home. She then met her soulmate Frank Murphy who fulfilled her dreams and loved her with all his heart. They married on Valentine's Day in 1999 and shared companionship until her passing. In 2001, they took permanent residence in Cape Coral, Florida where they shared a beautiful home.

Paula showed her family and friends the beauty of life through simple moments and memories. In her limited kitchen spaces, she made hearty meals that were remembered even decades after the last taste. She made breathtaking paintings, crocheted, loved to listen to music and make everyone laugh with her quick wit and wacky humor - everyone that had the pleasure of being in her presence could feel the warm glow of her exuberant life and love. She was a woman of strong morals and independence, who knew how to hold her own in the toughest moments. Her memory is already seen in the prettiest sunsets, birds and butterflies, gentle breezes and rainbows. Only goodness and joy followed her.

Paula was a loving and amazing mother to her children, their spouses and all of her grandchildren: Scott Armstrong and his children Katie and Anna Armstrong, Kelley Trilling and her husband Jeff and their children Jayme and Gabrielle Trilling, Amy Newman and her husband Dan and their children Tyler and Danielle Newman, Dennis Decker (predeceased in 2015), and his daughter Samantha Decker (mother Janet Thomson), Jeff Decker and his wife Laura and their children Julia and Kris Decker, and Maggie Decker.

A memorial visitation will take place in her honor on Saturday, October 7, 2023

from 2:00 - 4:00 pm at: Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home, 187 La Rue Road,  
Newfoundland, NJ 07435.

The family requests that donations can be kindly made to St. Jude Children's  
Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105-9959; [www.stjude.org](http://www.stjude.org) or  
towards planting a tree in her name; [www.alivingtribute.org](http://www.alivingtribute.org)

Thank you, Paula, Momsie, Nana, for giving us the opportunities to live full,  
laugh loud, and love deeply.

You will be missed.

On line condolences and directions: [www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com](http://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Visitation

OCT 7. 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

Stickle-Soltesz Funeral Home

187 La Rue Road

(Parallel to Route 23 North between Clinton Road and Union Valley Road)

Newfoundland, NJ 07435

(973) 697-6700

[info@sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com)

<https://www.sticklesolteszfuneralhome.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of PAULA J. MURPHY.*



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October 06, 2023 at 12:32 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of PAULA J. MURPHY.

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October 06, 2023 at 12:32 PM



“ *John Taylor & Eric Wukitsch purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of PAULA J. MURPHY.*



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**John Taylor & Eric Wukitsch** - September 29, 2023 at 12:41 PM



“ *John Taylor & Eric Wukitsch planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of PAULA J. MURPHY.*

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**John Taylor & Eric Wukitsch** - September 29, 2023 at 12:41 PM

CA

“ Sending love and prayers to Frank, Scott, Kelly, Amy, Jeff, Maggie & all the grandkids & family❤️🙏 Paula & I met in 1979 as class moms for Ms Friedman’s fifth grade class. We became the best of friends & spent wonderful times together... talking, laughing, crying sometimes, watching our kids grow up to become loving, caring adults. Paula will always be in my heart, I am blessed to have had her in my life❤️❤️

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Carolyn - September 28, 2023 at 02:11 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of PAULA J. MURPHY.



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September 25, 2023 at 11:32 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of PAULA J. MURPHY.

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September 25, 2023 at 11:32 AM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of PAULA J. MURPHY.



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September 24, 2023 at 09:31 PM

DS

“ My dearest Kelley and family...My very deepest condolences. Paula, your mom, was one of my mom’s best friends. She was like a mom to me after my mom passed. She was such a good person and true friend, like no other. I was missing her for quite some time already. I cherish the memories of our times together when she visited from Florida. I regret not making it the last time we scheduled to meet, we lost touch. She will be forever missed 🥹🙏💔💜

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**Donna Snee** - September 24, 2023 at 05:04 PM

PE

“ My sister was at times my mentor, my friend, my guidance counselor. Being three years younger I often needed her wise advice. Paula always put her children above all else, they were her life along with her remarkable husband “Murph”. As a couple they were so enjoyable to be around. I already miss you my big sister with a bigger heart. Pete

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**Pete** - September 23, 2023 at 08:11 PM

LS

“ Paula and I were great friends at Ridgewood HS, both of us graduated in 1962. I knew her first husband Richard Armstrong and even got to visit the two of them in their new house and see her first baby.  
Paula was a wonderful friend with a warm and giving heart. I'm so very sorry to hear of her loss. I will donate to St. Jude's Hospital for Children in her honor.

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**Lori Stinson** - September 23, 2023 at 04:17 AM



“ *Tina Yetter Dunlop lit a candle in memory of  
PAULA MURPHY*



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**Tina Yetter Dunlop** - September 22, 2023 at 08:30 PM