

Marybeth Petrasik (McConnell)

December 14, 2007

Age 53

Ashland, Ohio

Marybeth Petrasik McConnell died on December 14, 2007 at age 53 in Ashland, Ohio.

She was survived by her husband, Ken McConnell, and her mother, Mary Petrasik, as well as her sister Bonnie Sikes (Bob). Marybeth was the aunt to many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by father, George.

Marybeth earned a bachelor of arts degree from Indiana University, a master of arts from American University, and a PhD from The Ohio State University.

A dear friend recalled: "Mary Beth was an extraordinary woman, scholar, and mentor to many. She was involved in all levels of the community, at church, and in the Lakewood city schools. She loved to read and write and was thrilled to start her new job at the library at St. Ignatius. Her life touched so many people and she will be greatly missed."

Here's a humorous story our LHS classmate Fran Brokaw remembered about her friendship with Marybeth: "She and I were close buddies sophomore year because we met in Mrs. Dryja's English class. Marybeth is the person who got me to convince my parents to get me contact lenses! She and I would take our glasses off except when we were looking at the chalkboard. We used to walk along Detroit Ave without our glasses, and discovered we could freak people out by looking directly at them (that is, staring) but it didn't bother us because *we* were not making eye contact-- they just thought we were! We only did this with teenage boys. It was quite hilarious in our 15-year-old minds!"

While a student at Lakewood High, Marybeth was in Sophomore Choir, Marching Band, Symphonic Orchestra, Lakewood High Times staff, Barnstormers, National Honor Society, Introspect, Watters Science Seminar, and Swim Team Timers.