



## Diane H. Fitzgerald

May 23, 1947 - March 1, 2014

ALBANY- Diane Haines Fitzgerald, 66, passed away unexpectedly on Saturday, March 1, 2014. Born in Troy, the second daughter of five of the late Marvin J. and Gloria Sarrault Haines, she was a 1965 graduate of the former Keveny Memorial Academy, Cohoes, NY. Subsequently, she received her Child Care Technician Certificate from St. Catherine's Child Care Center, Albany in 1966. Called initially to religious life, she was a Novice of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, Latham, NY. Later, she went on to receive her Associate Degree in Nursing in 1972 from Hudson Valley Community College and was awarded a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Certificate from the University of Michigan in 1976.

Diane had a varied career as a Nurse working at St. Clare's Hospital, Schenectady, NY; McMahon Services for Children, New York City; Marion Lodge/ Pyramid Lake Camp; St. Peter's Hospital and Hospice; Albany Medical College (the first nurse clinician of the Pediatric Cancer Program, now the Melodies Center for Childhood Cancer and Blood Disorders); Director of Nursing, St. Margaret's House and Hospital for Babies, Albany; Wilton Developmental Center, Wilton, NY; and Hospice of Northeast Florida, Jacksonville, Fl. She gave up her nursing career in 1988 to venture into the most rewarding part of her life, caring for her son, Christopher Martin, who passed away in 2002 of Cystic Fibrosis, while also sharing her support and expertise in assisting her husband's naval career and with those whom she

met in the Navy at their various duty stations.

Diane served on the Board of Directors, Pyramid Lake Camp and was an active member of the Autism Society of Northern Virginia. Since her husband's Navy retirement and their relocation to Albany, she served as a volunteer for the Catholic Charities of Albany Grandparent Respite Caregiver Program, as well as worked as a Nurse for Beginnings, a special needs early intervention program in Lansingburgh.

Diane's final act of charity and contribution to medicine was her donation of organs to others.

Aside from her late son, Christopher, she was the beloved wife of Commander Joseph G. Fitzgerald, U.S. Navy (Retired) since July, 1986; sister of Rev. Marlene Haines (Rev. Thomas Wand), Sandra Haines (Susan Pagel), Janice M. Haines; and Gale C. Hack (Michael J. Hack, Jr.) She is also survived by several nieces, nephews, grand nieces and grand nephews, as well as many friends, locally and across the country, especially her Navy "family."

Funeral services Saturday, March 8 at 12:00 Noon at the McVeigh Funeral Home, 208 N. Allen St., Albany, thence to Blessed Sacrament Church at 1:30 PM, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Relatives and friends are invited to call at the funeral home Friday, March 7 from 4-7 PM.

A heartfelt thank you is extended to Diane's many caregivers through the years, and most especially, for the kindness and professionalism of the Critical Care Unit nursing staff at St. Peter's Hospital, during her last days.

Those who wish may send contributions in her memory to the Wildwood Foundation, 2995 Curry Rd. Extension, Schenectady, NY 12303 or Make A Wish of Northeast NY, 1 Mustang Dr., Cohoes, NY 12047.

To leave a message for the family, obtain directions or for other helpful services, please visit [www.McveighFuneralHome.com](http://www.McveighFuneralHome.com)

# Previous Events

## Service

MAR 8. 1:30 PM (ET)

Blessed Sacrament Church  
607 Central Ave (Father John Bradley Way)  
Albany, NY 12206  
(518) 489-0188  
[info@mcveighfuneralhome.com](mailto:info@mcveighfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ *McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc. created a Tribute Video in memory of Diane H. Fitzgerald*



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**McVeigh Funeral Home, Inc.** - March 01, 2014 at 12:00 AM



“ *Diane H. Fitzgerald*

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October 08, 2023 at 09:24 PM



“ *My sincere condolences. May the words at Isaiah 25:8 bring you comfort during this difficult time " He will swallow up death forever, And the Sovereign Lord Jehovah will wipe away the tears from all faces."*

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**Montana W.** - November 30, 2015 at 07:54 PM

DM

“ *Dianes Family~ Im so very Sorry for your loss and wish to express my deepest condolences. Diane was such a Special, Kind hearted person. She took care of me as a child @ the Albany Medical college Childhood cancer clinic back in 1982. She quickly became a family friend and would oftentimes treat me and my siblings to outings @ the nys fair, new York city, movies etc. We lost touch over the years but i have been thinking about her so much lately and the impact she had on my Life, Career and the Speciality I have chosen. She really was an angel here on earth and may she rest in Peace sincerely, Davelyn (Marshall) Milanese, North Greenbush, NY*

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**Davelyn Milanese** - June 03, 2014 at 08:18 PM

GK

“ *Joe,*  
*I was so sorry to hear of Diane's passing. She was a wonderful woman, wife, mother and Navy supporter. I am fortunate that I was able to get to know her. You have my deepest sympathies. Wonderful photo & video tribute covering her life. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*  
*Glen Kaemmerer*

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**Glen Kaemmerer** - March 24, 2014 at 12:32 PM

JM

“ *I'm saddened for the loss of a long ago friend. I pray for Diane's soul, her family and friends. I still remember the fun times we had on the "Gooney-Bird" in the back yard at the end of Amity Street. May her soul rest in peace. Deacon Jim Murray.*

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**Jim Murray** - March 07, 2014 at 11:20 AM

AN

“ *My sympathy and prayers to the family. So sorry for your loss. Anne Murray Morrighan*

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**anne** - March 06, 2014 at 06:52 PM

SM

“ *Dear joe:I was shocked to hear of your wife's passing from Bruce.having had to deal with my dad's passing back in 1995,your sorrowful situation brings back the painful realities when a loved one passes.but I know you have had strong faith and Roxanne and I will keep you in our prayers as you move past the grief and celebrate Diane's and your life together.having read her obituary she sounds like a caring,sharing,woman who will be welcomed heartily into gods everlasting afterlife.take care. Steve and Roxanne mahoney*

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**steven mahoney** - March 06, 2014 at 05:13 PM

KP

“ *Dear Professor Fitzgerald,  
I'm so sorry to hear for you loss. Diane was an amazing women who dedicated her life to others through her charitable acts and her compassion. My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family and I hope that in your happiest moments, in every flower, ray of sunshine, or blessing that you feel Diane's love and Christopher's smiling upon you. True love is never lost completely, she'll be with you forever. Love and God Bless,  
Kira*

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**Kira Pogge** - March 06, 2014 at 09:01 AM

JL

“ *Janice & Family,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I know how much your family means to you. My thought and prayers are with you and your family at this time.*

*Love Always,  
Joelene Lawson*

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**Joelene Lawson** - March 06, 2014 at 08:23 AM

JM

“ *Joe, Sorry to hear of your loss,Diane was a very kind and considerate woman. Ellie and I are in Florida, and will not be able to make the wake or funeral Jim Mc Mahon*

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**Jim Mc Mahon** - March 06, 2014 at 07:39 AM