Paula Decker Everitt

July 19, 1954 - April 2, 2016

Newtown, PA - Paula Decker Everitt, age 61, passed away on April 2, 2016. She had devoted her life to family, travel, compassion, and art. After a year's struggle with a brain tumor, she died peacefully at home, surrounded by her loving family.

Born on July 19, 1954 in Sussex, NJ, to Chester E. Decker, Sr. and Madeline (Johnson) Decker, Paula spent her childhood in Sussex. For her senior year of high school she became an exchange student in Lund, Sweden, before attending Colgate University to study religion and philosophy. Paula attained a Masters of Divinity degree from Andover Newtown Theological Seminary, was ordained in the United Church of Christ, and served as Associate Minister of the Hingham Congregational Church in Massachusetts.

After taking a professional break to focus on raising her 3 children, Paula subsequently became more focused on compassion and counseling. She received a MA degree in education and counselling from West Chester State University in Pennsylvania and served as a Guidance Counsellor at Great Valley High School in Paoli, PA.

When the family moved to Cambridge, England, for 3 years, Paula poured her compassionate energies into her life-long love of art. After moving back to Berwyn, PA, she earned a 4-year certificate in Fine Arts at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Paula was a professional artist for the last 10 years, working in oil colors and multimedia drawing. Her most recent art used abstract figure drawing to depict vulnerable people living with disease, war

and/or poverty. This body of work, characterized as “raw and disturbing,” won numerous awards in juried art exhibitions.

Paula is survived by her husband, Daniel E. Everitt; her parents, Chester E. Decker, Sr. and Madeline Johnson Decker of Sussex; her son, Rory L. Everitt of Berkeley, CA, her daughters, Dana P. Everitt and Morgan T. Everitt, both of New York, NY; her sister, Christine Decker Henry of Wantage, and her brother, Chester Decker, Jr. of Wantage.

A private family graveside service was held on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at Clove Cemetery, Sussex, NJ. A Service of Celebration of Paula’s life will be held at 2pm on April 16, 2016, at the Newtown Presbyterian Church, 25 North Chancellor Street, Newtown, PA 18940. The family requests that memorial donations may be made to the VAD Foundation, www.vadfoundation.org which provides desperately-needed education to children in South Sudan. Online condolences may be offered to the family at www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Cemetery Details

Clove Cemetery

Route 23
Sussex, NJ 07461

Tribute Wall

NA

Sweet Paula, who never forgot her friends. Although I haven't seen Paula since our long ago high school days, a few years ago she reached out to my parents, visiting them and writing a beautiful letter in memory of my sister, Judy. Walking the halls of High Point on the cusp of life's adventures, I remember their shared youthful happiness and anticipation as though it were yesterday. Paula was a true blessing to all who had the good fortune to be touched by her serene warmth, abounding kindness, and generosity of spirit. Chester and all who loved her, you are in my thoughts and prayers. Rest in peace, sweet Paula.

Nancy - April 15, 2016 at 09:20 AM

DN

paula, i will always remember how much fun we had together in high school. your senior year when you went to sweden, we kept in contact by letter, i still have those letters in my memory box.
we both had children and we got together with them at my mom's home in wantage. that was so sweet.
thankyou for all the wonderful memories. you will be missed.

dona pecoriello

Dona nowicki - April 12, 2016 at 02:53 PM

JH

To Chris and family: My sincere condolences on the loss of your sister, Paula. Our family sends our thoughts and prayers. Hennings family

Janice Hennings - April 11, 2016 at 08:44 AM

LI

Linda lit a candle in memory of Paula Decker Everitt

Linda - April 09, 2016 at 08:55 AM