



Mary Rooney

October 15, 2006

Rooney, Mary Lou Retired 3M manager, volunteer & life of the party. Born March 9, 1942 in Milan, MI to Margaret & Newton Squires. A style icon, Mary Lou graduated from Michigan State University with a degree in retail merchandising. An Alpha Xi Delta and active in campus organizations, Mary Lou was a life long Spartan. After graduation, Mary Lou moved to New York City. During her travels she met Gary Rooney in Mpls. & determined he was worth the move. She joined Dayton's Special Events in 1967 but 1968 was her year - she married Gary on Feb. 24 & joined 3M in Nov. Hired to promote Scotchgard Protector, she worked in all areas of textiles ? furnishings, carpet, apparel, and the paper & packaging industry. She was an advocate for women's advancement in her entire 30+ years on the job. A tireless organizational and political volunteer, she was a member of numerous fashion, design, & political organizations. Supporter of MI State U Libraries, U of MN women's athletics, Planned Parenthood, & other arts/social service organizations. Mary Lou loved to travel, listen to music (esp. rock and roll), cook, taste wine & dine out. Her quiet time was filled with crosswords, reading and the joy of her beloved pets. Mary Lou fought a 7 year battle with Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis, a relatively rare & incurable disease that causes lung tissue to scar and harden. She died October 8, 2006. To help others win this fight, she has donated her body to the U of M for ongoing research of lung disease. In addition to Gary, Mary Lou is survived by siblings Jan & Jerry Greashaber, Sara & Jerry Siebert, Newt & Linda Squires and

special aunt, Leona Mae Towner (all in Mich.); and the entire Rooney family. A celebration of Mary Lou's life will be held Thursday, Oct. 19, 3 PM at Washburn-McReavy followed by a reception at Jimmy's (952-224-5858) in Minnetonka from 4 ? 6 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorials preferred to Michigan State Library Fund (Margaret A. Squires Fund) or Coalition for Pulmonary Fibrosis. Washburn-McReavy Edina Chapel 952-920-3996 W. 50th St. & Hwy. 100