



Patricia Ann Sowada

March 26, 1943 - October 2, 2020

Patricia Ann (Trettel) Sowada was born in Duluth, Minnesota on March 26, 1943 to Clarence Benedict and Isabelle Ursula (Wozniak) Trettel. She grew up with her 8 siblings on a farm near North Prairie, Minnesota and attended a one room schoolhouse for her formative elementary years. She continued her education at St Francis High School in Little Falls, earned a Bachelor Degree of Education from St Cloud State University and a Master Degree in Elementary Education from the University of Minnesota. She married Marvin Albert Sowada on June 14, 1965 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in North Prairie and then shortly thereafter moved to Columbia Heights, Minnesota. Although she started teaching at Charles Lindberg School in Little Falls, her tenure was at Highland Elementary in Columbia Heights where over the years, the couple was blessed with four children; Jacqueline Ann, Susalyne Ann, John Albert and Sheralyne Ann. The family would split time between Columbia Heights, the city life, and Rice, the farm life, but through it all Patricia would always find time to watch her children at music recitals, sporting events and just being outdoors. She was extremely proud of all that her children accomplished throughout life.

Patricia always had a passion for education and being around children. Upon official retirement in the Spring of 2020, she amassed a total of 55 years of teaching and held a deep connection with Highland Elementary and all of the students she had taught. Her students would bring a light to her eye and she

was always proud of who they became. Patricia volunteered on numerous community organizations, serving on the Columbia Heights Library Board for 31 years and Sister Cities International for 28 years, holding various leadership positions in both. Her faith was also strong as a member of both Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Columbia Heights, and Holy Cross Catholic Church in North Prairie. Her talent and love for music was always shared by playing and singing at community events but was showcased as church organist for 14 years in North Prairie.

In her later years, Patricia's grandchildren filled her days. From babysitting and school visits to sporting events, playing cards or just stopping to visit, she loved them unconditionally. She also enjoyed watching birds and spending time in her gardens, with hostas being her beloved plant. She was proud of her collection of over 200 varieties, not to mention the gnomes scattered throughout. Patricia was well known for her attention to detail, always being dressed for the occasion and sharing her smile and bubbly personality. Patricia will be greatly missed and forever in our hearts.

“Simply Lovely”

Patricia Ann Sowada, age 77, of Columbia Heights, MN passed away 10/2/2020. Survived by son John Sowada, three daughters, Jacqueline (Eric) Mulder, Susalyne (Jason) Truckenbrod, and Sheralyne (Steve) Rechnagel; five grandchildren, Nicholas, Calen, Clarabelle, Colsen, and Madalyne; three sisters Kathleen Trettel, Beatrice Manka, and Adelaide Trettel, and two brothers Benedict Trettel, and Aloysius Trettel. Preceded in death by her husband Marvin Sowada, parents Clarence and Isabelle (Wozniak) Trettel, her sisters Gertrude Corkery, Margaret Trettel, and Virginia Trettel. Private Mass will commence at Holy Cross Catholic Church, North Prairie, MN, Thursday, 10/22/2020. Interment at Holy Cross Catholic Cemetery.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, in-person attendees of the private mass and burial will be by personal invitation only. All others are welcome to view the mass via Live stream (Zoom).

Zoom Link for mass is below. Mass starts at 2 pm, Thursday, October 22, 2020 Central Time (US and Canada).

Please join 15 minutes prior so you are in the Zoom waiting room, for admittance at the start of mass.

Join Zoom Meeting (Fr Roger Klassen)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82870389186?pwd=OHdtWE1tMVRLMIJVR2hXYUhtMlVydz09>

Meeting ID: 828 7038 9186

Passcode: 731466

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,82870389186#,,,,,0#,,731466# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,82870389186#,,,,,0#,,731466# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 828 7038 9186

Passcode: 731466

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kmutLOWCB>

Flowers are welcome for the mass, delivered to Washburn-McReavy on
Weds. 10/21.

Celebration of life forthcoming.

Tribute Wall

DS

“ Dear Sowada Family,
In memory of Pat, I will be donating money to the annual CHHS Scholarship Fund. I loved teaching with Pat when at Highland, having you kids in class (John), and later working with her on the annual Sister City Arts Night. She was always such a positive force! She touches many lives of people who's lives changed because of her. Sending love, Diane Scully

Diane Scully - November 02, 2020 at 07:03 PM

MS

“ Pat, your smiling face at so many city events will be missed. Your dedication to this city, our public safety team, the children of Columbia Heights and Lomianki as well as your own family: they were your joy! We have been blessed to have known you. We will miss your stories and laughter. Your faith and joy of music was part of your legacy.

...and I will make sure that I pay my dues to Sister City!

Mayor Donna Schmitt - October 26, 2020 at 07:12 PM

PH

“ Sending my sympathy
Patty and I were good friends in high school. We corresponded through the years
Last time I saw here and hugged was at Marvin's 's funeral
I would have been at her funeral if not for covid
Loved her
Pat Hartmann

pat hartmann - October 22, 2020 at 06:52 PM

CF

“ Pat was the best! She was my go-to substitute teacher for many years! She had a way to get even the most challenging kids engaged and excited to learn. She was very thoughtful and always willing to share her ideas and volunteer at school! We made so many cards over the years to send to Poland for children in the hospital. She was the most positive, caring, fun, and amazing person. She will be missed. I will always think of her as I pass her house on my way home from work, or when I find an old file with an art project...like "Leaf man!" We love you Pat. God bless and may you rest in peace.
Cheryl Felling

Cheryl Felling - October 21, 2020 at 03:56 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.



October 20, 2020 at 01:58 PM

SR

“ Mrs. Sowada was my teacher. I remember she treated our opinions as important, had high standards for our work (which helped us grow and be successful in later years), and played with us. She treated us as if we were her children. I hope she is enjoying playing kickball with her new class in heaven. My sympathies to her family and close friends. Shelly (McGinnis) Rausch

S Rausch - October 20, 2020 at 09:56 AM

CC

“ *Patty was my cousin. When my family came to visit her family in Minnesota I remember she would always make the children feel welcome in their home. The younger cousins Me and my three sisters would go to the kitchen and Patty would bring us cookies or bread with butter and jelly. We would talk with her like she was our friend. She would show us her room and play music for us on her radio, Charlene Metz Crocker*

charlene crocker - October 19, 2020 at 09:35 PM



“ *Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.*



October 19, 2020 at 04:44 PM

LF

“ *lil Sowada and family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.*



lil Sowada and family - October 19, 2020 at 03:13 PM

BF

“ *Bill, Patty and Family purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.*



Bill, Patty and Family - October 19, 2020 at 03:08 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.*



October 19, 2020 at 12:15 PM



“ *To Pat's lovely family,
I had two of you in school. John and Jackie. I remember both of you.nice kids, good students. I particularly remember when John brought his violin to school. Now I have a granddaughter two plays the violin.*

I have some great memories of Pat. We taught together for many years. She and I had twin wigs back in the days when wigs were in style. . Hers was dark and mine was blond. I remember both Pat and Marv as being very hard working. Both of them had multiple jobs. Maybe their example was what made the kids such hard working students.

Pat was always a real lady, a good teacher and considerate of all. I know she will be missed. My most sincere sympathy, I will keep Pat in my prayer. Jean Rath.

Jean Rath - October 12, 2020 at 03:24 PM



“ *Fall Fantasia was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.*



October 12, 2020 at 03:17 PM

NL

“ *Ms. Sowada, my 2nd Grade Teacher. Had a Hugely Positive Influence on Me. And I will be ForEver Greatful too Her! My Condolences, too Her Children, GrandChildren, Family, and Friends! Rest In Peace!*

nlourey21@gmail.com - October 10, 2020 at 06:15 AM

VM

What organization would be the one Patricia would choose to donate to?

vera Mulder - October 10, 2020 at 12:33 PM

VM

What a shock! Patricia will be missed by so many. Our condolences to all her family and friends.

vera Mulder - October 10, 2020 at 12:34 PM



“ *Pat was such a great lady. I wish I had spent more time with her recently but I'm glad I did get to know her over the years. She always made you feel like one of the family!*

Joey Zuehlke - October 09, 2020 at 11:48 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.*



October 09, 2020 at 02:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Patricia Ann Sowada.



October 09, 2020 at 09:14 AM