



Charlene A. (McTiernan) Widrick

September 23, 1948 - July 28, 2009

Mrs. Charlene A. (McTiernan) Widrick, age 60, of Utica, passed away on Tuesday, July 28, 2009 in the privacy of her home with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on September 23, 1948, Charlene was the daughter of the late John R., Sr. and Cosma G. (Palmisano) McTiernan. Raised and educated locally, she attended Roscoe Conkling Elementary School and was a 1966 graduate of T. R. Proctor High School. She enrolled in classes at M.V.C.C. where she received her Associates degree, and pursued her collegiate studies at Utica College where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English. She subsequently was awarded her Masters degree in Education from SUNY. On February 13, 1993 she married Donald E. Widrick; they were blessed with a perfectly matched relationship filled with love and respect. Charlene began her teaching career in 1975 when she was assigned to St. Mary's Catholic School in Frankfort as an English teacher. In 1980 she taught at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel School, and in 1986 she took a position at Notre Dame Junior High North. In 1994 she began her tenure at Notre Dame High School where she worked throughout her illness until June 2009. For many years, she was an instructor of religious education at her former parish, St. Agnes Church, until its closure. She was devoted to the mission of Catholic education for the children she taught, developing their minds and deepening an understanding of their faith. Charlene was a loving individual who enjoyed spending time with people. Her door was always open to her family and

friends, and her co-workers were thought of as part of her family. She embraced people in the light of God's teaching, forgiving their frailties and celebrating their goodness. She enjoyed her summer home at Sylvan Beach and was a parishioner of St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish. Charlene is survived by her husband, Donald; her sister and brother-in-law, Grace and Charles Isgro of Rotterdam, NY; and her brother and sister-in-law, John R., Jr. and Carolyn McTiernan of Liverpool. Survivors also include her nieces and nephews, John R. "Jack" McTiernan III, Renee (Isgro) and Mark Kelly, Brian R. and Alicia McTiernan, Beth and Matthew Robbins; her great nieces and great nephews, Michael Kelly, Marisa Kelly, Ava McTiernan, and Tyler Robbins; her mother-in-law, Marilyn Widrick of Utica; and her cousins. The family extends heartfelt appreciation to Charlene's family and friends, especially her Notre Dame family, for all the support, comfort, and care offered to her throughout the years.

Visitation will be held Friday (today) from 4:00-7:00 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be considered to the Notre Dame Scholarship Fund; envelopes will be available at the funeral home. Charlene's funeral service will commence on Saturday morning at 9:30 from the funeral home and at 10:30 at St. Mary of Mt. Carmel/Blessed Sacrament Parish where her Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery.

Tribute Wall



“ Eannace Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Charlene A. (McTiernan) Widrick



Eannace Funeral Home, Inc. - July 28, 2009 at 12:00 AM



“ I just found out today that Char lost her battle with cancer and passed away in July of this year. I had the great fortune of taking care of her while working at Memorial Sloan Kettering Hospital in New York City. I got a chance to get to know Char and her husband and felt a great connection since I lived in Utica for a short time. I wish her husband and family well in this difficult time. May she be at peace.##imported-begin##Susie Berelsman, RN##imported-end##

November 06, 2009 at 09:35 PM



“ The many lessons Charlene taught me influence me to this day. I will never forget the impact she had in my life.##imported-begin##Patricia Brown Marashian##imported-end##

August 05, 2009 at 10:48 PM



“ To the family , I want to express my deepest sympathy . Don ,so sorry my friend , Just want you to know that my prayers , my thoughts, my friendship will be always with you . I'm here for you .
Diane###imported-begin###Diane Skermont###imported-end##

August 02, 2009 at 07:46 AM



“ Ms. McTiernan taught us at St Marys in Frankfort. I am sorry to hear of her passing and my thoughts and prayers are with you.###imported-begin###Sally Reina Hackett###imported-end##

July 31, 2009 at 10:21 PM



“ I had the pleasure of being a student of Mrs. Widrick's in my 9th and 11th grade years at Notre Dame. Being in college now, I look back on the lessons she taught me about what are now my favorite books and all that she did to get through to us. She might have had some trouble with some kids, but she did whatever she could to help them grow. Mrs. Widrick helped many kids realize their potential as writers and students, and I still take her lessons with me to college. Thank you, Mrs. Widrick for all that you did for me at Notre Dame. Thank you for having faith in me, and thank you for being a friend. I will miss you very much on my visits back to 2 Notre Dame Lane.###imported-begin###Emily Mulkerne###imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 08:10 PM



“ Don, I am so sorry about Char. I know its been a tough road for you and I know the Lord will bestowe many blessings on you and Char. May she find peace and watch over you as I shall. God be with you my friend+Joyce (from sales and samples)###imported-begin###joyce collea###imported-end###

July 30, 2009 at 07:04 PM



“ I was hired as a teacher at Notre Dame 3 days before school started when I was fresh out of college. Char taught me some of my best lessons--when to laugh, "Don't go to the office", "If the office bugs you, bug the office", and to always remember that tomorrow is a new day (even though it might be filled with the same garbage!). She was a gift to our students, even though many of them didn't realize how much they learned until they left her classroom. I am no longer teaching at ND, but Char's life lessons have always stayed with me, and in times of trouble and stress I often find myself reflecting back on her quotes and her ability to laugh at life. Char--I think you need to add a 4th book to your series about school and it should be titled "If the angels bug you, bug the angels". I am so grateful to have been able to know you as a fellow teacher, but more importantly as a friend. Until we meet again I hope that your version of heaven is filled with books, not student essays, and that you have plenty of time to catch up on them all.###imported-begin###Patricia Mooney###imported-end###

July 30, 2009 at 06:22 PM



“ Dear Don and Family, We all love Char with all of our hearts and forever will. I will always remember the great times at Sylvan Beach we had when i was a kid. Char always had the greatest sense of humor. When she was around everyone would always smile. We will all miss her. Char we love you forever!!! Lots of Love Debbie, maurice , and Nicky Isaac###imported-begin###Debbie Isaac###imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 04:30 PM



“ Goodbye mrs.widrick. I had a great time in english class last year. You always knew how to make us laugh. I'm going to miss your presence at notre dame. R.I.P###imported-begin###Hillary Iwanyszyn###imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 03:20 PM



“ I am sorry for your loss. I was one of Mrs. Widrick's students. She will be missed greatly.###imported-begin###Carrie Davis-Jackson###imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 03:14 PM



“ I have fond memories of charlene and her family growing up on Mc Quade ave.

I am so sorry for your loss.

Sandra###imported-begin###sandra demichele mancuso###imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 01:15 PM



“ As a teacher, I feel blessed to have had so many inspiring teachers in my past. One especially being Mrs. Widrick. She wa a wonderful woman who taught me more about being strong than any book ever could have. She always jokingly told us that if we didn't do our best we were going to need a "handbasket", but the fight that she fought truly displayed that she continuously did her best throughout good times and bad and she definitely won't need that "handbasket". I remember sitting with her during one of her chemo treatments and her having the same strong, steadfast spirit as always. Despite that new setting, I don't think she realized she was probably teaching me my greatest lesson, never give up. My condolences to the family and my memories of her will continue to stay with me for years to come.##imported-begin##Melissa Curtis##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 12:20 PM



“ Charlene was one of a group of teachers with which I had the pleasure of starting my teaching career. We spent many planning periods discussing life issues and educational ideas. We didn't always see eye to eye but we had respect for each other as educators. Our loss of her will be felt by the students and her colleagues deeply. My wishes for peaceful moments and memories go to her wonderful husband and family as well as her friends.##imported-begin##Randy DeVett-McKeon##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 11:52 AM



“ Dear Don, I am not sure you will remember me; I worked for Annette at the Town Crier many years ago. I am sorry for your loss, but know that you and Char shared many good times together. You were blessed to have each other.##imported-begin##Gail Rysso##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 11:00 AM



“ Don, we just heard and are so sorry. Char put up a gallant fight. She has gone to her mansion in the sky. Love Tom and Betsy##imported-begin##Tom and Betsy LaSalle##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 09:33 AM



“ Please accept our sympathy. I met Charlene in high school. She was a lovely person with a great sense of humor.

Susan and Bruce Baumgarten##imported-begin##Susan Biel Baumgarten##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 07:53 AM



“ I'm grateful for the amazing teacher Mrs. Widrick was to me as a high school student, and I'm even more grateful for the chance to know Charlene as a colleague and friend. Her lessons, kind words, and laughter will always remain with me. I will miss her. My prayers are with all of you.##imported-begin##Sarah Sorge##imported-end##

July 30, 2009 at 07:22 AM



“ *To the Family of Charlene,
So sorry for your loss. Charlene was one of my Teachers at Mt
Carmel School. She had a great rapport with all of her students.
May she rest in peace.##imported-begin##Debbie Barbero,
Jacksonville Fl###imported-end##*

July 29, 2009 at 05:07 PM