



## Christina Schwarting Darter

December 29, 2009

Christina S. Darter, 63 of Syracuse passed away Tuesday, December 29th at Community General Hospital following a long battle with cancer. Born in Syracuse, she graduated from West Genesee High School in 1964, Oberlin College in 1968. She received two masters degrees, one from SU and the other at SUNY Oswego. Christina was passionate about teaching her students, future teachers, and especially her children and grandchildren. She taught in the Syracuse City School District until retiring in 2002. More recently she was an Adjunct Professor with SU School of Education. She was a lifelong member of the Fairmount Community Church, where she taught in the Christian Education program. Christina was a former board member of Friends of the Mundy Branch Library. She was predeceased by her parents Nathan and Hester Schwarting. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, Gene; a son Benjamin (Christina); three daughters Rebecca (Justin) Marquis, Jessica (Julián) Hillyer, Susanna (Steven) Smith; two brothers Robert H. and James N. Schwarting; six grandchildren. Calling hours are 2 to 5 pm Sunday at B.L. Bush & Sons Funeral Home, 10 Genesee St., Camillus. Services are 11 am Monday at Fairmount Community Church. Spring burial will be in Sheppard Settlement Cemetery, Skaneateles. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to Fairmount Community Church, Christian Education, 4801 W, Genesee St., Syracuse, 13219. Please sign her guestbook at [www.BLBUSH.com](http://www.BLBUSH.com)



# Tribute Wall

JB

“ I am so very sorry for your loss. Chris was a very loving beautiful person. I am sure you will miss her greatly. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Jackie Barrett** - January 12, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SB

“ Dear Jessica and familey, I was Sorry to hear of you'r loss. Your mother was always a very nice women. I remember coming over to you'r house to play when we were little and all the girl scouts stuff we did she was always very kind. I know we haven't seen or heard from each other in years but, my mother told me what happened and gave me the info to write you my condolences. My husband, two kids and I live in Raliegh, N.C. and wanted to wish you'r familey well. I will say a prayer for her and hope she passed peacefully and was not in any pain. Stephanie

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**Stephanie Sherwood- Bailey** - January 08, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CD

“ We were very sorry to hear of the passing of your wife and mother. When we returned from Ireland, we heard the sad news. I will always remember the kind way she had with all the children on Twin Hills drive as they've grown up over the years. She was a lovely lady and a great neighbor to us all. Charlie Downey (Acroos the Street at 211)

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**Chow Downey** - January 07, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ *Becky and the Darter family- I am so sorry for your loss. Mrs. Darter was the quintessential mother. She was patient and kind, even while teaching a bunch of obnoxious 13-year-old cadets to sew. Her winning smile and scrumptious chocolate chip cookies will always have a place in my childhood memory. I am sorry I could not make her services. However, know that you are in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Lisa Pettitt-Congdon** - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MS

“ *Forty years ago, a fresh faced teacher with long brown hair and a beaming smile assigned her class to keep a journal. I was perturbed with the assignment as I was never comfortable expressing my thoughts - a problem that exists to this day. Yet in spite of this horrific assignment, I grew to know and love Chris. She was one of only two teachers who became real people to me (the other being Gene, of course). I only saw Chris sporadically throughout the years, but when I did it was as if no time had passed at all. It saddens me to no end to think that our paths will never cross again. As I go on in life I will wonder if my actions will make Chris proud or grimace. And I will smile. Fondly, Mary Rose*

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**Mary Rose Sgroi** - January 05, 2010 at 12:00 AM

AJ

“ *Chris was so young to have left her earthly existence; being the exemplary Christian woman, I know her presence will be felt for generations through her family, friends and all the lives she touched. I thank God for the opportunity to have witnessed the manor in which Chris lived her Christian faith not only at Fairmount Community Church but in her dedication to her parents and family. I pray that the Darters, Schwartings and all Christina's friends will be carried by God's love at this painful time.*

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**Anita Joy** - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

ML

“ Over the years, it was always a pleasure to cross paths with Chris in the halls, or at the copy machine of Grant Middle School. She was down to earth, and ready to share a laugh. She will remain special in my memories. My deepest sympathy goes out to all who love her.

Mary Laframboise - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ My dear friend Jessica & family: Despite my best intentions as a rotten teenager, your mother never stopped welcoming me with open arms into your family and your home. She was a truly beautiful woman who touched my life. I hold your family in my heart. Love, Liz.

Liz Petrone - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PK

“ I have so many fond memories of Chris from our time at Fairmount Church. She always had a smile and a kind word. I am sure she will be missed by many and will keep her family and friends in thought and prayer.

Pam Kelsey-Gossard - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Dear Gene, I am sorry you have had to let go of your beautiful Christina. While it is certain her spirit remains close by you, the loss of her physical presence must be tremendous for you and your family. I will pray that you continue to feel her near you and are deeply comforted by her spiritual presence. Fondly, Michelle Militi

Michelle Militi - January 03, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MG

“ Dear Mr. Darter, Rebecca, Ben, Jessica, Susanna and family, There are some things in life that I think I am not meant to understand for I cannot comprehend why wonderfully, sweet people need to be taken so early from our lives. I spent so much of my childhood with all of you and I have such wonderful memories. I can still hear her happy voice welcoming me as I arrive at your house. I can still smell those delicious chocolate chip cookies she baked which always seemed to be on hand. I can still see the sewing projects in the works in the corner of the dining room. The memory of her will live on in all of our hearts. Please know you have my deepest sympathy and my love and friendship always. Michelle

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**Michelle Grams** - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

RD

“ So sorry for your loss. I remember my interactions with Chris like it was only yesterday. She was always enthusiastic, smiling, empathetic and generous with her feelings and warmth. I enjoyed the short hellos and brief updates in between dropping off or picking up kids, she was a great member of a great family. My sympathies. Rich

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**Rich DeFichy** - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PL

“ Dear Gene, Becky, Jessica, Ben , Susanna and families, You have lost an irreplaceable and wonderful person. You have our deepest sympathy. Paige and Steve and family

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**Paige and Steve Lutwin** - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LC

“ Mr. Darter & Family, My deepest sympathy is extended to you and your family. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers.

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**Lesu Clukey** - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Dear Becky, Ben, Jessica and Susanna, Anyone who has lost his or her mother knows that it is profoundly different from any other loss. They all can have a little sense of what you are feeling...but only a little. Your mom was so awesome. No one can know the depth of such a loss. I am so sorry that you have to go through this. Gene, there are no words...please accept our deepest sympathy.

Gene and Trish Mack - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JR

“ Gene, I'm so sorry to hear about the loss of your beloved, Chris. She was a special lady! I think of You often! Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. God Bless You. JR

James and Cynthia Rodgers - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

LP

“ Jessica - My deepest sympathies to you and your family. I am so very sorry to hear about your mom's passing. Prayers and healing thoughts are being sent your way. Sincerely, Lisa Pigut (friend of Christine and George)

Lisa Pigut - January 02, 2010 at 12:00 AM

SK

“ I'm so sorry to hear of your loss. I am very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with Chris at Grant. She had this special talent of being able to bring a smile across everyone's face and make each individual, young or old, feel special. Chris was a dedicated educator who also had taken time out of her busy schedule for me to help guide me and survive my first years of teaching. Chris Darter is truly an amazing person and will be missed by so many!! My thoughts and prayers are with you, God bless.

Sara Kees - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CZ

“ So sorry to learn of Christina's passing. Remembering fondly all the good days on Chapel Drive. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of you and especially Bob and James during this difficult time. Warmest regards, Carmel and family

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**Carmel (Losurdo) Zollo** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

DV

“ It was such an honor and privilege teaching in the same environment with Chris. She was so dedicated, intelligent, kind, and understanding. A finer person in this world would be hard to find. My deepest sympathies to Gene, her children and family.

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**Donald Varn** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PM

“ Chris was one of the most kind and compassionate educators I have had the pleasure of knowing. Her kindness touched the lives of many children and their families. My condolences to each of you.

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**Phyllis Moore** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ my deepest sympathy to you Ben and all your family . our thoughts and prayers are with you all.

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**monica bowles** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

FM

“ She will truly be missed. Dear friend of oh so many years. Our sincere condolences to the entire Darter & Schwarting families.

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**Frances & Scott Miller** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

GS

“ My dear, dear friends. I feel Chris's loss deep in my heart and soul. I will be happy to honor her by watching over her grandchildren during calling hours. Please send me the names and ages of the children so I can be sure to have appropriate "entertainment" for them.

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**Gail Stopher** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MB

“ Gene and family, I am so sorry to hear of your loss. Please accept my deepest sympathy during this difficult and sad time.

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**Margaret Barlow** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JB

“ Dear Mr. Darter, Ben and family, My deepest sympathies to you and your family and I were sad to learn of your loss. I will cherish the years of wonderful memories with Mrs. D while growing up. Please know your are in my thoughts during this difficult time.

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**James Bowles** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

PB

“ To the Darter family- It is with deep regret that I have learned of your loss. Mrs. Darter had a smile and a laugh I will never forget. She will be missed by all of those that have crossed paths with her. With Love and Condolences- Pete

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**Peter Broughton** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

BV

“ *The world has lost a bright and shining star. Chris was simply the best and brought great joy to everyone she met. I feel blessed to have spent many happy times with Christina Schwarting Darter. God will welcome her with open arms. My deepest sympathy to Gene, their children and grandchildren, Robert and James. Bette Vertrees*

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**Bette Vertrees** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

CH

“ *Mr. Darter and Family- We want to express our deepest sympathies to your family. Mrs. Darter was a very special woman who always made us feel welcome when we were around her. Her laugh was infectious and her stories about teaching helped to guide a change in career paths. She was a pleasure to be near. We are so very sorry for your loss. She and your family are in our thoughts and prayers. Christine and George Hillyer*

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**Christine Hillyer** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

JF

“ *We are so sad to learn of Chris' death. She was one of a kind -- the most selfless person I've ever met. She always kept it real, she always reached out, she always encouraged and uplifted, she always looked out for others. She was caring and hard-working and very funny! She will be missed. Our thoughts are with you, Gene, and the entire family. Love - Judy and Fred P.S. Gene, when you need a laugh, just remember us crawling around the halls of Blodgett looking for Marsha Donovan's contact lens. Chris was the one, I believe, who told us that Marsha didn't wear contacts! :)*

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**Judy and Fred Fusco** - January 01, 2010 at 12:00 AM

MM

“ Chris was one of the most wonderful people that I have had the pleasure to work with at Grant Middle School. She always had a smile and was always ready to help anyone who needed it. She was an inspiration to both students and fellow teachers alike. Her passing has left an empty spot in our world. My sympathy is extended to Gene and her children...I remember how she loved you all so much.

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**Martha Marriott** - December 31, 2009 at 12:00 AM

JD

“ I had the pleasure of working with Chris at Grant Middle School and while she was an adjunct professor at SU. Her kindness, dedication, and sense of humor was evident in every project that she undertook. She raised everyone's expectations of themselves and their students. I not only respected her, but I also admired her. She touched everyone that she met. I am sincerely sorry.

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**jean van doren** - December 31, 2009 at 12:00 AM