



Constance A. Sawyer

March 14, 1951 - March 2, 2007

Constance Ann Sawyer, age 55, of Sault Ste. Marie, MI died at home Friday morning, March 2, 2007, after a 15-month battle with cancer. Connie was born March 14, 1951, in Marquette, MI to William and Ruth (Ranta) Cleary. She attended Bishop Baraga Central Grade School through eighth grade and graduated from Marquette High School. She earned her teaching degree from Northern Michigan University and her masters degree from Marygrove College. She worked four years as a nurse aide in Reno, NV, then moved with her husband to the Sault, where for the next ten years she devoted herself to being a stay-at-home Mom. She began teaching elementary physical education at the Sault Area Public Schools in 1987 where she was employed until her death. She greatly enjoyed the many children she taught and her co-workers in the Sault Schools. She loved to exercise, walk her dogs, and attend garage sales with her friends. Connie is survived by her husband, Timothy, her two sons; Daniel (Sandy) Sawyer and James Sawyer, her grandson Terek James Sawyer all of the Sault. Her mother Ruth (Ranta) Cleary, brothers; William and Robert Cleary, sister, Kathy (John) Papciak, all of Marquette County, and sister Paulette (Paul) Yelle of Las Vegas, NV. She was preceded in death by her father William Joseph Cleary in 2001 and her beloved brother-in-law, James "Sandy" in 2000. Visitation begins at 11:00 AM and services follow at 1:00 PM at St. Joseph Church in the Sault, on Friday, March 9, 2007. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be left to Friends of Bayliss Library or Chippewa County Animal Control Shelter.

Tribute Wall

AH

“ To Tim and Family: We have only learned today of your great loss and wish to express our deepest sympathy. We hope that you find comfort through family and friends during these difficult days. You will be in our thoughts and prayers. Aida and Bryan Hayes (PSY '95-97)

Aida Hayes - March 29, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JP

“ I am very sorry for your loss. I knew Connie when she was good friends with Patty in High School. She was a very nice person who had a great smile.

Joelyn Pabst - March 21, 2007 at 12:00 AM

DP

“ To Tim, Dan, Jim and family.

I am so saddened to hear of Connie's death--I was out of town and just now received word and so missed the services. Please know how much Connie's smile and cheerful nature meant to all of those who knew her--she was a strong and lovely woman, with a lively and generous spirit. Even my infrequent encounters were always memorable.

My thoughts are with you, Tim. and with the boys --young men now, who I was priviliged to have had as students--as well as your friendship as a very supportive colleague, which I have always treasured.

May you find comfort in your shared memories of your life with Connie.

diana pingatore - March 10, 2007 at 12:00 AM

BW

“ Dear Jim-
Your Putvin's family just heard of your loss today. We are all saddened by the news and our hearts go out to you and your family. You have our deepest sympathy and we will keep you in our prayers and thoughts.

Brenda Weber - March 09, 2007 at 12:00 AM

EW

“ Connie was such a wonderful person. I have fond memories of her as a child. She was a dear friend to my parents and I enjoyed my visits with her as an adult. My deepest sympathies to Tim, Dan and Jim, my prayers are with you at this difficult time.

Erin Wolff - March 08, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FH

“ Dear Tim & Family,

I was saddened to hear the news about Connie's passing. Our thoughts are with you and your family during this difficult time of loss. I know what a special person Connie was; I have vivid memories of the days when you and she were a young couple starting your family. I'll always remember the time when I was working with you on building a new garage when you lived in town. Connie would juggle feeding toddler Danny in his high chair, feeding you and I enormous submarine sandwiches, and in between running countless errands to gather needed supplies for the neophyte builders. I was always impressed with her warmth and kindness, as well as her strength.

I know that your life experience, tremendous strength, and support of your family and friends will help you get through this time of loss.

"In the sharing of our losses, our hearts grow stronger"

Tim, you and your family are especially close in my thoughts at this difficult time.

Fred & Laura Holt

Fred Holt - March 08, 2007 at 12:00 AM

TH

“ *Tim, our thoughts and condolences go to you and your family. We are sorry we can't be there but you are in our thoughts. Take care and we hope to see you when we get back in town. Always, Ted&Ann Hunt*

Ted&Ann Hunt - March 08, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LD

“ Our deepest condolences to the Sawyer family. Often I would see Connie at the Bayliss Library as we searched for good books. She always had a nice smile and a friendly hello. Our sincere sympathy goes out to your family at this most difficult time.

*Richard, Linda, Danielle and Lisa
Dalimonte*

Linda Dalimonte - March 07, 2007 at 12:00 AM

JO

“ I will always remember sitting with Connie and Sault High basketball games watching Dan and my nephew Peter playing. She was a wonderful woman and my deepest sympathies go out to her family.

Jeannie (Atkins) O'Connor - March 07, 2007 at 12:00 AM

AP

“ I have lovely memories of "La Leche League" days together and our same age toddlers...so very sad to see of her passing and sending sincerest prayers and condolences to you.

Anne Papineau - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

GM

“ Although we have not seen each other in a quite a few years I was always inspired by her radiant smile and unassuming demeanor.

I know she will missed by all but treasured in our meemories.

Greg Mingay - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

FD

“ *Mr.Sawyer, Dan and Family,
My thoughts and prayers are with you during your time of loss. I will
always fondly remember Mrs. Sawyer both as a teacher and Dan's
Mom. She will be sadly missed by all.*

Franci (Benoit) DeCoe - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

KM

“ *Tim and Family,*

*We would like to express our deepest sympathy in the loss of
Connie. She was truly a wonderful person. We will always
remember her smiling face as she jogged or walked past our place
when we lived on 8 Mile. Please know you are all in our thoughts.*

Evan, Kathy and Scott McDowell

Kathy McDowell - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

CB

“ *To the Sawyers,*

*My wife and I are very sorry to hear of your loss. Our hearts go out
to you and your families and we hope that you can find comfort in all
the wonderful memories of her. Please know that we are thinking of
you in your time of need.*

*Corey and Autumn Brasher
Class of 1999, Psychology*

Corey Brasher - March 06, 2007 at 12:00 AM

LG

“ We would like to extend my condolences to the family of Mrs. Sawyer. She was a wonderful woman and she will be greatly missed. We are keeping the family in our prayers at this trying time.
David, Lynn, Brian, and Katie Greengtski

Lynn Greengtski - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ She was the best gym teacher anyone could ever have. She supported me by attending one of my gymnastics competitions in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. I am sorry for your loss. She will be sadly missed by all of her students past and present.

With all my support,

Selena Kay Meser

Selena Meser - March 05, 2007 at 12:00 AM