



Connie J. Whitehead

April 1, 1954 - September 23, 2017

Connie Jean-Foltz Whitehead, 63, of Iron Mountain, passed away at home on Saturday, September 23, 2017.

She was born April 1, 1954 in Petoskey MI, the daughter of Fred and Arlene (Fettig) Foltz. Connie graduated from Petoskey High School in 1972 and went on to earn her degree as a Registered Nurse. Over the years, Connie was employed as an RN at Marquette General Hospital, Pain Diagnostic Associates in Niagara, and Dickinson County Healthcare System in Iron Mountain. She was a member of American Martyrs Church in Kingsford. Connie loved nature and being outdoors, especially camping, walking, rock finding, kayaking, beaches, and cross country skiing. She also enjoyed traveling, live music, cooking, pottery, writing, and photography. Most especially, however, Connie treasured spending time with family and friends.

Connie is survived by her parents, Fred and Arlene Foltz of Petoskey; four children, Gabriel Whitehead of Royal Oak MI, Lana (Kurt) Dempsey of Marquette, Veronica Whitehead of Greenfield WI, and Zachary Whitehead of Kenosha WI; the father of her children, Dennis Whitehead of Sagola Township; her brother, Michael (Kelley) Foltz; four sisters, Janet Foltz, Shirley (Allen) Redman, Jody (Dan) Lightfoot, and Amy (Victor) Beck; sister-in-law, Sue Foltz; two grandchildren, Myla Whitehead of Kenosha and Wallace Dempsey of Marquette; and many beloved nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her step-son, Patrick Whitehead, and her brother, Thomas Foltz.

Visitation will be held on Saturday from 11:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home in Iron Mountain. A memorial service will follow at 2:00 pm at the funeral home, officiated by Father Joseph Gouin. In recognition of her lifetime of dedication to the nursing profession, Connie will receive the Nightingale Tribute during her memorial service.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Pancreatic Cancer Action Network or National Public Radio.

Condolences may be expressed to Connie's family online at www.ernashfuneralhomes.com

The family has entrusted the Erickson-Rochon & Nash Funeral Home of Iron Mountain with the arrangements.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **30**. 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
(906) 774-7676
nashfuneralhome@gmail.com
<https://www.ernashfuneralhomes.com/>

Memorial Service

SEP **30**. 2:00 PM (CT)

Erickson-Rochon and Nash Funeral Home
901 Carpenter Avenue
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
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Tribute Wall

JW

“ I was deeply saddened to hear about Connie’s passing. She came down to see us at the lake cottage a couple of years ago. Connie seemed to be the same cheerful, fun loving gal my sisters and I remembered from 4-H and cherry-picking days. I think Connie was the youngest cherry-picker but she endured. Connie was level headed and mature beyond her years so I wasn’t surprised to learn she’d become a nurse. Connie seemed to me to have the right combination of steadiness and optimism to be very successful in health care. I want to express my heartfelt sympathy to Connie’s family for their loss.

Jan Wingenroth

Jan Wingenroth - October 03, 2017 at 01:47 PM

ME

I only just learned of the great loss of Connie. I worked quite closely with her at DCH. She was not only a lovely friend, but also an outstanding nurse. I am going to have some medical testing done in the next month. The only saving grace was that I thought Connie might assist, that was a comfort to me. Now i learn we all lost a lovely, talented, kind, strong woman. She will be greatly missed. I worked with Dr. Whitehead for several years. Dennis, I am so sorry for your loss. I also got to know Lana. Lana, what a shock. I know you were close to your Mom and this is a hard time for you. I know, I've been there. It never goes away, but as time passes it does get alittle easier. For the rest who knew and loved this special Lady, my most heartffelt sympathy, words really don't give justice to the heartache of our loss. Connie is home with our Savior tonight. She is walking on moon beams and resting on clouds. She will forever be young and beautiful. Earths loss is Heavens gain. I am a better person for having known Connie. It was A privilege to work with her. You are all in my thoughts and prayers. Gods most beautiful blessings to you all. Mary Daniels Elsemore.

Mary Daniels Elsemore - January 29, 2018 at 05:16 AM

MI

“ A beautiful lady...as a friend, mother, sister

Connie was someone that I think everyone who knew her thought she was your friend...and she was. She cherished relationships of many kinds especially those of family.

Connie was a lady of generosity, who was always willing to share and give of her time...often at her own expense...thinking of others needs before her own.

Connie was direct while being sensitive to others...patient, understanding and honest

Connie had a deep devotion to her faith and family.

Connie loved being outdoors...outdoor activity seemed to refresh her soul

Connie was a strong lady who prioritized and dealt with life's challenges as they arrived

Connie was a great listener...never judging...well maybe not from the mother perspective.

Connie had a nurturing and caring spirit. Her heart was one to be modelled after

Even though we held out hope, we had to say good bye to a very beautiful lady.

We who knew Connie lost so much in her passing, yet gain so much in her living.

TO CONNIE

*Sometimes memories bring comfort and make us smile,
But there are times when grief takes over for a while;*

*Friends offer gentle words and prayers to console,
And tell me what has happened to your loving soul*

*We believe of a better place,
Where our beloved ones rest in God's warm embrace.
We are happy you're free of pain*

*Understanding the wonderful person you were,
only serves to remind me of the painful loss we endure;*

*But we know your kind soul wants no tears or pain,
Instead you'd want warm memories and love to remain.*

*I promise not to forget the loving memories you gave;
But I will miss you so very much my sister dear.
PS. Say hi to Tom and Pat.*

Mike - September 30, 2017 at 04:28 PM



Wonderfully said

Pete Foltz - October 03, 2017 at 02:34 PM



“ *Treasured Lilies Spray was purchased for the
family of Connie J. Whitehead.*



September 29, 2017 at 07:01 PM

RD

“ Connie was a very special person who made each person she came in contact with feel appreciated. She and I served on a Women's network together and her humor and compassion as well as her wisdom were a valuable presence. Later she cared for many in my family as a nurse at DCH. It was such a comfort to me to have her present as part of our healing team. She will be sadly missed by all of us who were blessed to know her. We send prayers for her family.

Robelle & Bob Degenauer - September 29, 2017 at 05:48 PM

SH

“ I am so sorry for your loss, I worked with Connie and we shared many ideas on how to improve patient care. I really don't know of anyone that had all of her special qualities. I will miss her and hope that time helps all of you feel some peace. Sincerely, Sue Hadley DCCHS

Susan Hadley - September 29, 2017 at 04:25 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Connie J. Whitehead.



September 29, 2017 at 10:05 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Connie J. Whitehead.*



September 29, 2017 at 09:52 AM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Connie J. Whitehead.*



September 28, 2017 at 11:13 PM



“ *Connie's classmates @ St. Francis Xavier in Petoskey, Michigan are deeply saddened with the passing of our classmate and friend. Connie will shine upon us and we will never forget our dear friend! Rest In Peace Connie. Class of 1972*❤️

PHS/SFX Class of 1972 Petoskey, MI - September 28, 2017 at 10:17 PM



“ *Fred and Arlene, Jim and Mariann want to tell you how sorry we are for you loss of Connie. Please know you are in our thoughts and prayers along with you whole family. May Connie Rest In Peace. God Bless you!*

Mariann and Jim Hoffman - September 28, 2017 at 06:18 PM

MH

“ *Mariann And Jim Hoffman lit a candle in memory of Connie J. Whitehead*



Mariann and Jim Hoffman - September 28, 2017 at 06:13 PM

JT

“ *Judy & Bob Trethewey lit a candle in memory of Connie J. Whitehead*



Judy & Bob Trethewey - September 28, 2017 at 05:07 PM

JT

Connie's Family, there aren't enough words to express the sincere sympathy that we have for you. Not only for now, but since last spring. Goodbyes are always hard not matter how much time you have to say so. She lives in each one if you and her love and zest for life will carry you through. Her smile will light the sky!!So many hugs to all you!! Judy & Bob

Judy & Bob Trethewey - September 28, 2017 at 05:12 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Connie J. Whitehead.*



September 28, 2017 at 02:54 PM

LS

“ *My condolences to the family at this very sad time. I have many memories of Connie when we worked at MGH ED. She was a calming, smiling, caring presence to her patients and co-workers. I will always remember her encouragement to me. Our prayers are with Dennis and the family.*
Liz Siivola and Peter Vorhes



Liz Siivola - September 27, 2017 at 08:05 PM

CR

“ *Condolences to the family of Connie.*
I was a classmate of Connie's many years ago at SFX.
Remembering Connie as kind, caring person.
Prayers and love,
Catherine Gibes Remkus

Catherine Remkus - September 27, 2017 at 07:22 PM

SR

“ *Gabe, Lana, Nica, Zack & family- Know that you are in my heart & prayers. Your Mom was very special & she lives on in all of you. I loved her dearly & will always hold her in my heart. May you find joy in your remembrances of her. May the stars carry your sadness away,*
May the flowers fill your heart with beauty,
May hope forever wipe away your tears,
And, above all, may silence make you strong.
Sue Radloff

Sue Radloff - September 27, 2017 at 02:42 PM

BJ

“ Dear Dennis and kids,

Back in the late 70's, early 80's my wife Michelle and I first met Connie, and Dennis, at Marquette General Hospital. We have many fond memories of times shared together with our two families and many other close families we knew and worked with in Marquette. Dinners, picnics, skiing and more. Connie's electric smile is hard to forget and whenever I think of her, that is what I see. I am sad to say Michelle and I won't be able to attend the funeral because we will be out of town. Dennis, our love goes out to you and the kids. May the Lord's peace be with you all during this time.

Bruce & Michelle Johnson - September 27, 2017 at 11:10 AM

JD

“ *I was privileged to work with Connie, but I also had the profound honor to call her my friend. I have many treasured memories. She was a special Angel here with us and now watching over us. May God Bless her family and friends now and always.*
Love, Joan DeClark

Joan DeClark - September 27, 2017 at 09:38 AM

SR

“ *1 file added to the album New Album Name*



sue radloff - September 27, 2017 at 08:15 AM

K(

“ Connie was a great friend, Mom and nurse. No matter what was happening in the ER she stayed calm and loving towards her coworkers and every patient that entered our ED at MGH. This is a sad day and she will be missed. So sorry for her children, and family for your loss. May Connie RIP!❤️

Kathie Lahti (Gervais) - September 27, 2017 at 01:05 AM

AP

“ Words cannot express the sadness I feel with the loss of this faithful, gentle, loving, woman who made a lasting impression on my life. Connie shared her beautiful children with me, I babysat for them for many years. Thinking of all of you and sending love and prayers. Love, Adele L'Huillier Piotrowski

Adele Piotrowski - September 27, 2017 at 12:03 AM

HV

“ What sadness, to have lost such a great nurse so young! Hugs to all her family and friends, such a caring spirit cannot be replaced. Hilda Vivio

hilda vivio - September 26, 2017 at 10:37 PM

CM

“ My sincere condolences. I worked with Connie in the ED in Marquette. We shared many laughs and I will always remember her smile, kindness and caring. Although I haven't seen her in years, my heart was saddened to hear she had passed and I will always be thankful for having having known her as my friend. Cathleen McGuire - Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Cathleen McGuire - September 26, 2017 at 10:23 PM

DJ

“ Thoughts and prayers to all of you at this time...so sorry for your loss. Dean Jenner

Dean Jenner - September 26, 2017 at 09:48 PM

JO

“ When I was diagnosed with cancer, Connie had the extraordinary ability to calm the storm within me. With so few words I knew that everything would be ok. That peace stayed with me thru the next several weeks of treatments. She told me that she'd pray for me and I believe she did. I didn't know Connie outside of the hospital, but I felt like we were close friends. Her smile was as sincere as her words. I'll never forget her. I'm so sorry for your loss.

Jo - September 26, 2017 at 09:41 PM

TG

“ Such and incredible and loving woman. Truly one of a kind. She will be missed by so many.

Tiffini galik - September 26, 2017 at 09:33 PM

LW

“ One of the best. She will be missed her patients and co-workers. God's peace during this difficult time.

lisa wangerin - September 26, 2017 at 08:56 PM



“ We just met a few times and Connie was warm and engaging. She liked sharing herself. I so enjoyed her happiness at Mike and Kelley's wedding. She was so fun and didn't mind sharing her smiles. As a sister in Christ , Connie and I will share eternity together and it will be fun.

Wendy Rice-Hughes - September 26, 2017 at 08:49 PM



Michele
Juntunen

“ *Heaven received a truly special angel. To find so much love and compassion in one person is extraordinary. My deepest, deepest sympathies to the entire family. I will miss you Connie.*

Michele Juntunen - September 26, 2017 at 07:54 PM

BG

“ *As a Paramedic I worked with Connie for a number of years at Marquette General Hospital. I have never forgotten how caring and compassionate she was to her patients in the emergency department, as well as to her co-workers. She had a ready smile, or a sympathetic hug whenever it was needed. She was simply a woman that was filled with love for everyone. She will always be loved, and never forgotten.*

Bruce Gustafson - September 26, 2017 at 07:53 PM

KE

“ *My Connie Jean, my sister, my confidante, my friend,
These past nine months have robbed us...still too hard to
comprehend.
We've shared our joys and sorrows...much laughter and some
tears,
We've talked of joys and passions...weaknesses and fears.
You gave yourself so freely, a gift from up above,
Your smile, your laugh, your hugs...your unconditional love.
You fought this ugly sickness, with stubbornness and grace,
Concerned for everyone else, you fought a stoic race.
To know you is to love you...a hole now in my heart,
Left there by a beautiful angel, a genuine work of art.*

*What a gift and legacy you have left all of us...especially your
strong, beautiful, and loving children, Gabe, Lana, Nica, and Zach
and your wonderful grandchildren, Myla and Wallace. We will miss
you dearly...love Kelley Jean.....*

Kelley - September 26, 2017 at 07:25 PM

AP

*Words cannot express the sadness I feel with the loss of this faithful,
gentle, loving woman who made a lasting impression on my life.
Connie shared her beautiful children with me as I babysat for them for
many years. Thinking of all of you and sending love and prayers.
Love, Adele L'Huillier Piotrowski*

Adele Piotrowski - September 26, 2017 at 10:54 PM

 Shelly
Bouman

“ *my deepest sympathy to the Whitehead
family.*



Shelly Bouman - September 26, 2017 at 07:00 PM

LM

“ We are heartbroken to hear of Connie's death. Connie and I started our families together back in early 1980's in Marquette. She was one of my best friends and we shared many joys, sorrows and challenges. Connie had a heart of gold and the warmest smile - truest one of the most kindhearted persons I have ever known. We are sending our love and sympathy to Habe, Lana, Nica, Zach, Dennis and all of Connie's family. What a sad day and a sad loss.
Love,
Lynn & Don

Lynn Moon - September 26, 2017 at 04:19 PM

CB

“ Connie was one of the most beautiful people that I have ever known.. Her warm smile and sweet chuckle was her way of telling a person how much their friendship meant to her. She was very caring, empathetic and compassionate. Connie was a real diamond during her life on earth and now she continues to brilliantly shine in heaven.
To Connie's dearly loved family, I extent my deepest sympathy for your loss. You can remember her true love and know that you have a special angel that now guards over you.
God bless and comfort your broken hearts,
Christine Burns

Christine Burns - September 26, 2017 at 03:21 PM

JC

“ Connie will be greatly missed, she touched so many hearts with her smile and compassion. I was so fortunate to have known her for many years as a nurse here at DCHS. God has taken his earthly angle to heaven. Peace be with you.
John and Lori Cox

John and Lori Cox - September 26, 2017 at 02:59 PM

SF

“ Sincere sympathy to Connie's family and dear friends. She was a beautiful person and a wonderful caregiver and left us all way too soon. I will always be grateful she was around when I was losing my mom, and 5 years later, my dad. Her gentle advice in each situation was so helpful and comforting to my family - I will never forget that ...or her. God Bless you all as you mourn the loss yet celebrate the life of your beloved Mom, Daughter, Sister, Grandma & Friend. She was a special person and we were all lucky to have known her. God Bless!



Sheri LeBombard & Family - September 26, 2017 at 02:56 PM

PC

“ The first time I met Connie, I knew there was something special about her. Connie brought joy into this world with her loving and caring spirit. Her smile lit up a room when she entered. I am so sorry for your loss. Love and prayers.

Pat Cornish - September 26, 2017 at 02:47 PM

UE

“ Connie was one of a kind-one of the finest women ever. She was a wonderful niece, I will always cherish the time we spent together. She always left you feeling happier & more positive about life , a fantastic daughter, mom , grandmother & now angel in heaven. Thank you Connie for convincing God we needed some sunshine & warm weather . You will be missed. Love to all your family .

U. Norm & A. Em - September 26, 2017 at 02:43 PM

GO

“ A beloved and dear friend, whose smile and caring ways will be so very greatly missed. Though the memories are wonderful, I wanted more... My love to Gabe, Lana, Nica and Zach.

Gayle Van Osdol - September 26, 2017 at 01:21 PM

RO

“ Connie was a member of a group of women who wanted to make a difference for women who were battered and had substance abuse issues in Marquette, must be 30+ years ago. I was a member of the same group and was inspired by her to try to heal, not just the physical wounds that people get but to heal the whole person. She will be missed.

Ruth Oja - September 26, 2017 at 12:48 PM

TG

“ Tom And Joy Grattan lit a candle in memory of Connie J. Whitehead



Tom and Joy Grattan - September 26, 2017 at 12:17 PM

NW

“ I met Connie through our mutual friend Amie Tefft. I joined pottery with them, and was impressed how talented she was at the art. I was lucky enough to get to know her better with a concerts, parties, dinners with Amie & the other "girls." Connie's smile, laugh & genuine concern & care for all of us was very evident. I am a better person for having known her, even though brief. I wish it would have been longer. Much love to her entire family, God has chosen a special one & I have no doubt she is in good hands. She was and is a beautiful soul.
Sincerely, Nikki Weslin

Nikki Weslin - September 26, 2017 at 11:04 AM

DM

“ David & Gail Machus lit a candle in memory of Connie J. Whitehead



David & Gail Machus - September 26, 2017 at 10:44 AM