

ABOOD, DONNA HIGGERSON 8/6/09

Donna Higgenerson Abood was born in Utica, NY on July 24, 1941 to Harvey and Dorothy Higgenerson. She was educated at parochial schools in both Utica and Richmond, VA. After graduating from Dunbarton College in Washington, DC, she moved back to New York, settling in Brooklyn where she worked as a social worker, attended graduate school at Fordham University and where she met her beloved husband, Karim Abood, whom she married in 1966. After their wedding, they moved to Karim's native Baghdad where Donna was the editor of a prominent English-language newspaper. The couple returned to New York in 1968, settling in South Nyack where they raised their son, Haider, and daughter, Nadia. During her many years in South Nyack, Donna worked as a social worker, employed for many years by St. Agatha's New York Foundling Hospital in Nanuet, NY. She is well remembered in the group homes of the South Bronx and Rockland County, as well as among the Vietnamese and Chinese communities of Rockland, having worked tirelessly on behalf of so many children over so many years. In 2008 they moved to Roswell, GA to be near their daughter. It was at a hospice near Roswell that Donna passed away from lung cancer on the 4th of August, after a long, heroic battle against the disease. Donna is survived by her husband Karim; her brother, Richard Higgenerson (and sister-in-law Nancy) of Boston, MA; her sister, Karen Rapuzzi (and brother-in-law Peter) of Williamsburg, VA; her daughter, Nadia Wagner (and son-in-law Dan) of Marietta, GA; her son, Haider "David" Abood (and daughter-in-law Deirdre) of Dublin, Ireland; her foster sons, Nhi Tran (and wife Ben) of Queens, NY, and Phong Tran (and wife Hang) of West Nyack, NY; as well as several cousins, nieces, nephews and in-laws across America and the world. Donna was a long-time member of St. John's R.C. Church in Piermont, NY, and a recent addition to St. Andrew's R.C. Church in Roswell, GA. She was also active over the years in the Friends of the Nyacks, the South Nyack Neighborhood Advisory Committee and the Nyack Public Schools PTA. Her funeral will be at St. Andrews Church in Roswell, GA on Friday, August 7th at 2pm. A Memorial Service will also be held early next year at St. John's Church in Piermont, NY. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that any donations be made to Dominican College in Blauvelt, NY. Arrangements by H.M. Patterson and Son, Arlington Chapel, 173 Allen Rd, NE, Sandy Springs, GA 30328 (404) 851-9900.

Abood, Donna Higgenerson