

August 4, 2014

Dear Friends,

It is with sadness that I write this letter to you. Two weeks ago my mother passed away.

You may remember that I mentioned briefly in my May letter that Mom was coming to Massachusetts to spend a month with me. Everything went as planned. She loved being here especially hanging out on the front porch. She'd read her book, check out what the neighbors were doing, and catch a little snooze here and there. During our month together we visited a few places including Boston Public Gardens where the picture was taken with Terry, my sister. And also had a chance to talk and play cards with some of my friends. I am so grateful for the great gift of the month together. We both wanted her to stay longer and felt the time had gone too quickly. I took her home as planned on July 17th.

The very next day I returned to Massachusetts and received a text message from the sister Mom lives with, telling me she was in the hospital with Mom. Throughout that weekend we discovered how weak Mom's heart was and that she was in heart failure. All my family including a lot of the grand children got in to the hospital and had a great visit with her. She was herself until the very end. Her heart finally gave out about 1:30 a.m on Monday, July 21st.

I'd appreciate your prayers for me and my family as we once again walk the journey through grief. As a friend of mine said today, "The memories are sweet, the heritage is rich, but the relationship this side of heaven has come to an end and so the loss is real."



Thanks for your prayers for me and your partnership with me. I love that together we are helping others know Jesus who has made the way for life with God.

Because He lives and loves,

PS In case you are interested I'm including part of the obituary ...

“Patricia Kealy, age 86, of Wilmington passed away Monday, July 21, 2014. Born in Ford City, PA, Pat was the daughter of Anna Keener and James Bert Weaver.

She graduated with her nursing degree from Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA and supported the family while her husband, Tom, earned his doctorate. After getting the youngest of her 9 children into grade school she returned to nursing, first at the Wilmington General Hospital, then Christiana Hospital, and finally at the Kutz Home.

Pat loved times when the family was all together as well as all of the individual visits with her children and their families. At family gatherings she’d be found playing Rummikub with the grandkids. Pat had a great sense of humor and came out with one-liners that made you laugh. She enjoyed the camaraderie with the other Pearls and Clams in her water group at the Brandywine YMCA. She was a member of the parish at St. Helena’s for more than 40 years and appreciated the relationships she built there. Some of those years she served as a volunteer helping people in the community.”