



Dr. Melissa Marie Furio

April 3, 2021

Dr. Melissa Marie Furio, 62, a Philadelphia resident raised in Woodstown, NJ, passed on April 3, 2021. A graduate of Woodstown High School, she completed her undergraduate education in Pharmacy at the University of Rhode Island and her PharmD at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Melissa started her pharmacy internship at Thomas Jefferson Hospital in Philadelphia, and after an interim departure to work in hospice pharmacy, ended her career at Thomas Jefferson in Investigational Drug Service research.

Melissa loved to travel. She filled her life with action packed weeks and weekends often focused on her love of the ocean/beach, bison, sports, golfing, and local culinary delights. A travel highlight was the genealogically based trip to Italy with her parents and brother Joe. Melissa embraced her Italian heritage and culture and was the irreplaceable center of family connection and spirit. Her last wish was to visit the lavender fields in France. She was an avid Philly fan of all sports, always happy to engage in topics of controversy or celebration. She loved rowing and was a member of the Philadelphia Flying Phoenix Women's Dragon Boar Team. She couldn't wait to garden in Spring and drive "Alfie" in the Summer. She was an avid Madonna fan and never missed a concert near or far. She lived her life fully and solely, but never forgot a friend or family member. She was beloved by all who knew her. She was selfless, compassionate, and giving to many causes, especially

those in the benevolence of animals. She loved her cats Rupert and Rosie, but especially Charles, a stray that changed her life.

But most of all, she will forever be remembered as a loving sister, aunt, professional colleague, and selfless friend. Melissa is survived by her brothers, Brian Furio (Tami) of New Freedom, PA, Robert Furio (Cara) of San Diego, CA and Joseph Furio (Carla) of East Brunswick, NJ; her nieces, Gina, Caitlin, and Alexandra and step-nieces Sarah and Grace; and her nephews Samuel and Zachary Furio. She was predeceased by her parents, Joseph Furio and Carolyn Furio (Garrison) of Woodstown.

A visitation for family and friends will be held on Friday, April 9, 2021 from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM at the Adams Funeral Home, 64 Broad Street, Woodstown, NJ 08098. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 1 PM at The Catholic Community of the Holy Spirit, 2 Lamplighter Dr., Woodstown, NJ 08098, with interment to follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery in Woodstown.

In lieu of flowers, the family has suggested that donations be made to the American Cancer Society or the ASPCA in Melissa's name.

Cemetery Details

St. Joseph's Cemetery

Woodstown, NJ 08098

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 9. 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (ET)

Adams Funeral Home

64 Broad St.

Woodstown, NJ 08098

adamsfuneralhome@comcast.net

Mass

APR 9. 1:00 PM (ET)

St. Joseph's Parish Center

2 Lamplighter Drive

Woodstown, NJ 08098

Tribute Wall

PR

“ *Melissas family were long time neighbors growing up with her brothers who were friends with our sons. Always had fond memories of her and her family in a time of kids playing until dark and her dad Joe whistling for the kids to come home. She was an accomplished, intelligent ambitious person. Such a sad loss for her family, friends and colleagues. Please accept our deepest sympathies. The Ritchie Family Woodstown NJ*



Patricia Ritchie - October 29, 2021 at 02:21 PM

RF

“*Heartfelt sentiments I penned to my sister on the flight from San Diego. Melissa will be forever in my heart and on my mind.*

Robert Furio

I heard someone say, "You take my breath away. I'll love you 'til I die."

I never dreamed I'd see the day when it would make me cry.

How do I love you, impossible to say, I'm not certain how or why.

Nature gave me opportunity, nurture made me try.

Sister, sister, I've but one, I'll never have another.

A caring, loving, selfless spirit, uniquely not a brother.

If I could do it all again, I wouldn't change a thing.

Your life's a beautiful song to me, it's one I'll always sing.

Ours is not to question life; promises unkept.

Live each day as though the last, we lived, we loved, we leapt.

Your spirit lives within my heart, I feel it through and through,

I'll embody it throughout my life, even though it makes me blue.

"I'll exalt your memory with every breath", a phrase borrowed from

our mother.

A promise that I make to you, forever your loving brother.

From the time that we were kids, I thought we'd live forever.

Catholicism taught us not, we must have faith together.

I don't know how to give you strength, or tell you it'll be okay.

Our trust now lies within the Lord, I pray you'll find the way.

I know that we will meet again, we must, this time too short.

Let your spirit lead the way, mine will follow you some day.

Words can't tell the way I feel, I love you like no other.

Forever you'll be in my heart, your friend, your rock, your brother.

Robert Furio - April 11, 2021 at 02:44 PM

LO

“ *Sweet Melissa, you were a gift to the world. You always gave more to others than you received from them. I will always remember you for your wisdom, empathy, insightfulness and humility. God bless you angel. Lisa O'Neill*



Lisa O'Neill - April 11, 2021 at 10:16 AM

FA

“ *She was a beautiful person who loved life and enjoyed spending time even with her sibling's friends. She was always sweet and kind. My condolences Joe, Brian and Rob to you and your entire family. I'm so sorry for your loss.*

Franco Alegria - April 09, 2021 at 12:58 PM

MF

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Meg Furio - April 09, 2021 at 12:16 AM

MF

“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Meg Furio - April 09, 2021 at 12:16 AM

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Meg Furio - April 09, 2021 at 12:16 AM

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Meg Furio - April 09, 2021 at 12:16 AM

MF

“ I wish that all of you that loved Melissa will find peace and comfort without her. Not just her immediate family, but her extended family and her colleagues. I know she touched so many lives and it is my wish is that we all strive to live by her example ... To live to be our true selves and to bring happiness to others.

I will miss Melissa very much. I met her when I was 20 and she was 25. She was already working on her doctorate and well past the sophomoric behavior of a Freshmen in college. Yet, she never once made me feel that I was anything but her equal. Over the years, we sat for hours while enjoying incredible meals (sometimes Michelin rated) and chatted about art, music, science, Catholicism, spirituality, politics, travel, pets, healthcare, capitalism... We have discussed it all.

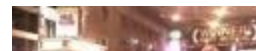
Yet, even though we had our differences of opinion, we always were respectful of each others point of view. I never once felt that this woman with a doctorate in pharmacology, and an MBA from Wharton was anything than my sister. She never judged me, she just loved me for who I was. And that was especially important to me ... because she was so smart and accomplished.

Melissa was the most sincere, transparent woman that I have ever met. She was very private, yet very straight forward with her emotions. I loved that quality about her. She didn't do the typical women behaviors of manipulation or passive aggression. She showed all emotions with deep passion. All of them. Love, Anger, Fear, Sadness, Trust, Joy...

It has been an honor to be loved by her and it has been my honor, as a mother, to allow her to spoil my babies, Caitlin and Sam Furio.

Wishing all of us peace and comfort during this difficult time.

Meg Reilly Furio

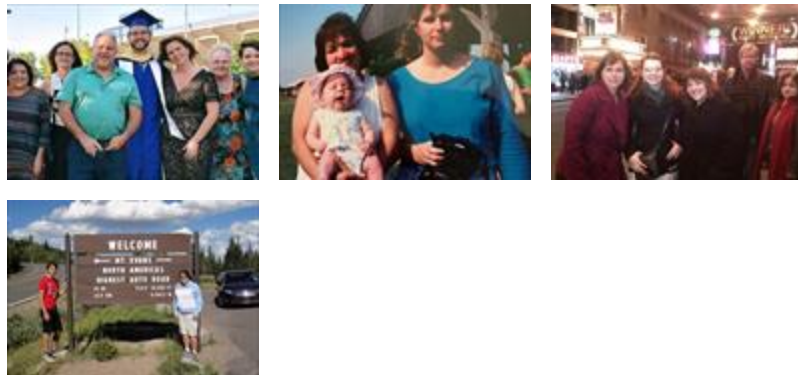




Meg Furio - April 09, 2021 at 12:12 AM

MF

“ 4 files added to the album Memories Album



Meg Furio - April 08, 2021 at 11:21 PM

NO

“ Please accept my prayers and wishes of comfort and peace for the family.

Nick Ong - April 08, 2021 at 05:07 PM

ES

“ Erec Smith purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Dr. Melissa Marie Furio.



Erec Smith - April 08, 2021 at 01:37 PM

JF

“ Jefferson Pharmacy Family purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Dr. Melissa Marie Furio.



Jefferson Pharmacy Family - April 08, 2021 at 12:59 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Dr. Melissa Marie Furio.



April 08, 2021 at 12:29 PM

TS

“ Please accept my deepest sympathy for your loss. Wishing you peace and comfort during this difficult time. Tony Surmonte

Tony Surmonte - April 08, 2021 at 12:16 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. Melissa Marie Furio.*



April 08, 2021 at 07:36 AM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Dr. Melissa Marie Furio.*



April 07, 2021 at 01:40 PM



“ *1 file added to the album Memories Album*



Tony Forte - April 07, 2021 at 10:37 AM



“ *Andrea purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Dr. Melissa Marie Furio.*



Andrea - April 06, 2021 at 09:47 PM

NS

“ Robert, my sincere condolences over the loss of Melissa. Dio and I are deeply sorry. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Norm

Norm Smith - April 06, 2021 at 07:52 PM