



Shelley W McKay

October 9, 2023

My beautiful mother Shelley W. McKay, a longtime resident of Tenafly, NJ, passed away on Monday, October 9, 2023 after a brief illness. Daughter of the late Donald J. Winfield and Isabel Shelly Winfield, Shelley was born in New York City and grew up in Tenafly, NJ. She was predeceased by her beloved brother Donald Winfield of Warwick, RI. She attended nursing school at Englewood Hospital and then went on to receive her Bachelor of Science from Columbia University and an MPA from New York University. After spending several years working as a nurse at Tenafly Pediatrics, in 1989, she accepted her dream job at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center in New York City. Over the next 27 years at MSKCC, she rose to be Nurse Leader of M9, dedicated to caring for children, teens, and young adults with cancer and immune deficiencies. She adored her work and was widely known as a skilled and kind mentor, advocate, and manager of generations of women and men who saw pediatric oncology nursing as their calling. In 1996 she was the recipient of the Samuel and May Rudin Nursing Award for Excellence in Leadership in recognition of her outstanding leadership abilities and commitment to nursing excellence. She was at her happiest spending time in her beautiful garden. She also loved animals, especially her late dog Orlando and cat Slippers, being at the family lakehouse in the Adirondack Mountains, and Baltimore crab cakes. She also enjoyed traveling and spending time with dear friends and family. More recently, she had become well-known in her inner circle as being a whiz at Wordle and crossword puzzles.

She is survived by her devoted daughter Heather Shelley McKay, her sister-in-law Deb Winfield, nieces Katherine, Laura, Eleanor, and Stephanie, numerous cousins, including Ruth, Brigitte, Phyllis, Larry, Anne, Thomas, Tommy, Michelle, Grant, Deb, Kevin, Alicia, Scott, Keith, and Karen, and many special and adoring friends from Tenafly and MSKCC. Her kindness, warmth, and laughter will be dearly missed.

A memorial service celebrating and remembering Shelley's life will be held at Barrett Leber Funeral Home, 148 Dean Dr., Tenafly, NJ 07670 on Sunday, November 5 from 12:00-2:00 pm.

Donations may be made in her honor to the Bergen County Animal Shelter and Adoption Center (<https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/animal-shelter-adoption-center>) or the Adirondack Council (<https://donate.adirondackcouncil.org/>).

Previous Events

Memorial Visitation

NOV 5. 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Barrett Leber Funeral Home

148 Dean Dr

Tenafly, NJ 07670

(201) 568-8043

<https://www.barrettleberfuneralhome.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Lucy O. planted a grove of 5 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shelley W McKay.*

Lucy O. - November 05, 2023 at 01:54 PM



“ *Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Shelley W McKay.*



November 03, 2023 at 02:37 PM



“ *Michelle R. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Shelley W McKay.*

Michelle R. - November 02, 2023 at 11:09 AM



“ *We will miss our wonderful neighbor and friend of over 25 years. Thoughtful, compassionate and kind only begin to describe this special lady. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the family. Michelle and Adrian Osian*

MICHELLE REISNER - November 02, 2023 at 11:05 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Shelley W McKay.*



November 01, 2023 at 10:14 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Shelley W McKay.

November 01, 2023 at 10:14 AM



“ *I absolutely adored my Aunt Shelley's loving, caring, nurturing spirit. She always gave me guidance and support when I was going through difficult times all throughout my life, whenever I needed her. When my father passed unexpectedly, Aunt Shelley and Heather were there for me again. Aunt Shelley will always have a special place in my heart, you too Heather!!* ❤️

Ellie Winfield-Hawley - October 26, 2023 at 06:11 AM

EW

“ I absolutely adored my Aunt Shelley’s loving, caring, nurturing spirit. She always gave me guidance and support when I was going through difficult times all throughout my life, whenever I needed her. When my father passed unexpectedly, Aunt Shelley and Heather were there for me again. Aunt Shelley will always have a special place in my heart, you too Heather!! ❤️



Ellie Winfield-Hawley - October 26, 2023 at 06:09 AM

DS

I had the good fortune of working with Shelly at MSKCC, where she was known as , " our fearless leader." She was stern but fair, a mentor and a confidant. She supported ideas and helped issue in many new initiatives beyond the nursing realm. As Lead Dietitian for M9 , she always encouraged our team to implement and improve for the best pediatric patient care. Forever in my heart. May you rest in peace and rise in glory. With love, Dom Symonette.

DSymonette - June 09, 2024 at 10:36 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Shelley W McKay.



October 25, 2023 at 12:47 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Shelley W McKay.

October 25, 2023 at 12:47 PM



Heather McKay

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Heather McKay - October 24, 2023 at 06:29 PM

EW

I adored my Aunt Shelley's loving, caring, nurturing spirit. She always gave me guidance and support when I was going through difficult times all throughout my life, whenever I needed her. When my father passed unexpectedly, Aunt Shelley and Heather were there for me again. Aunt Shelley will always have a special place in my heart, you too Heather!!



Ellie Winfield-Hawley - October 26, 2023 at 04:55 AM