



Patricia McMullen Wissinger

November 13, 1958 - June 20, 2014

Patricia McMullen Wissinger, 55, of Asheville, died on June 20th, 2014.

She spent her childhood in Charlotte before graduating from Western Carolina University. She received both a Bachelors of Science and Masters of Science degree in Public Policy from Western. Patty was committed to serving her country through the National Park Service. Her career with the Park Service extended over 30 years in numerous capacities including, Chief of Interpretation for the Blue Ridge Parkway and Cape Hatteras National Seashore. She also served as Chief of Concession Operations at Shenandoah National Park, Southeast Regional Partnership Coordinator and then as Superintendent of Vicksburg National Military Park, Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area and most recently as Deputy Superintendent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Patty became a mentor to many people she worked with in the Park Service.

She was a member of Central United Methodist Church in Asheville.

She was preceded in death by her mother, Marjorie McMullen who died in Charlotte. She is survived by her husband, Gordon Wissinger; her three daughters, Catherine Zehel of Colorado, Julia Lockamy of Asheville, Lauren Lockamy of Ashville; her father, Carroll McMullen of Charlotte; her three grandchildren, Mark, Lillian and Jackson Zehel all of Colorado; and her five

siblings, Mary Lou Lawson, Kathy Furr, Maureen Cameron, David McMullen and Debbie Leahy.

Patricia was a loving wife, mother, and grandmother. She will be greatly missed by all that knew and loved her.

A memorial service will be held at 2 PM on Wednesday, June 25th, 2014 at Central United Methodist Church with Dr. Rob Blackburn officiating. Burial will be held at a later date in Virginia.

Memorial Contributions may be made to the Chattahoochee Parks Conservancy, the organization Patty founded to support Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area at 4861 Laurel Springs Drive, Roswell, GA 30075.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN **25**. 2:00 PM (ET)

Central United Methodist Church
27 Church Street
Asheville, NC 28801

Tribute Wall



“ *Patricia McMullen Wissinger*

October 07, 2023 at 11:15 AM



“ *I was privileged to work with Patty on the Blue Ridge Parkway for several years. When I was working in interpretation, as a seasonal Park Ranger, Patty's love for interp, the Parkway, and the National Park Service was evident through her vision, guidance, hard work and dedication. I was especially inspired by her support of the Parks As Classroom program, in area schools, such as Hawcreek, where her own children had attended. Patty leaves a legacy which many NPS employees could only hope to attain. She should remain an inspiration to all who strive to become a part of that ever special NPS family.*

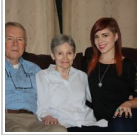
*Cindy Burnette Medlock
Seasonal Park Ranger 1973-2002
Blue Ridge Parkway*

Cindy Medlock - July 12, 2014 at 10:19 PM



“ *I am so sorry for your loss. Although, I do not know your family personally, I would like to share some encouraging thoughts from the Bible. The Bible provides comfort during these difficult times. Revelation 21:3-4 states, And he will wipe out every tear from their eyes, and death will be no more, neither will mourning nor outcry nor pain be anymore. The former things have passed away. Very soon now, we will never experience losing our loved ones in death and we will be able to see them again once they resurrected as per John 5:28-29. May these words give you a new hope.*

Ana - July 05, 2014 at 02:10 PM



“ Gordon and the girls,
I was saddened to hear today of Patty's passing. I first met her when I came to the Blue Ridge Parkway in 1988 and she was an LE ranger at Peaks of Otter. She and I both had three girls and we always shared stories of what was going on in their lives whenever we saw each other. Please know that your wife and mother was well loved on the parkway and will be greatly missed by all of us who have lived and loved on the "Scenic"!

*Love and prayers,
Terry and Karen Morris
Gulf Breeze , FL*

Martin Morris - June 25, 2014 at 03:05 PM



“ *My thoughts and prayers are with you all. I enjoyed getting to know Patty at Central. We were in the same Sunday School Class. She was a very thoughtful and special person. She will be missed.
Sincerely, Susan McMillan*

susan mcmillan - June 24, 2014 at 03:03 PM



“ *I did not know Patricia but have a lot of respect for the job she did working and protecting our parks and forests. I will keep the Wissinger family in my prayers. I am truly sorry for your loss.*

Terry D Hurley - June 23, 2014 at 10:05 PM

VP

“ *Kathy, I was so sorry to hear about your sister. My thoughts are with you and Ken.*

Vance Parker

Vance Parker - June 23, 2014 at 07:33 PM

LF

“ *Gordon and family - I am so saddened to hear about Patty's passing. I finally got to spend time with her at Hurricane Sandy and she was such a delightful person to work with! That infectious smile and interesting way of approaching a challenge with a steady focus and solid resolve that there was a solution was inspiring. I know that words are never enough when a loved one is lost, and she was certainly lost too soon. My sincere condolences go out to you and your family, you are in my thoughts and prayers. Linda Friar (Everglades)*

Linda Friar - June 23, 2014 at 08:45 AM

TM

“ *Gordon & Family,*

GSMA staff and board of directors share in your loss. We will miss the opportunity to work with Patty and share our passion for GSMNP. You are in our thoughts & prayers.

*Terry Maddox, Executive Director
Great Smoky Mountains Association*

Terry Maddox - June 23, 2014 at 08:18 AM