



Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher

July 24, 1965 - May 1, 2026

Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher, 60, of Middle Island, N.Y. and formerly Truxton, passed away on May 1, 2026, at Good Shepherd Hospice in Port Jefferson.

Born July 24, 1965, in Cortland New York, Carol was the daughter of Joseph and Jane Simon Maher. A 1983 graduate of Homer High School, Carol went on to further her studies at S.U.N.Y. Plattsburgh receiving her Bachelor of Science in Education and then on to Springfield College in Massachusetts where earned her Master of Education. While at Plattsburgh she was the president of her sorority where she continued her collection of lifelong friendships. Carol's love for travel began in high school with a trip to Mexico with her Spanish class. In college she was an international student, studying abroad for a semester in England. Carol seized the opportunity to travel extensively, over 13 different countries, where she skied, travelled via youth hostels, and visited many pubs along the way. She continued her love of traveling with her most recent trips to South Africa and Hawaii. Carol's quick wit and smile was her trademark. She used this gift to be a "friend to the friendless", always lifting others in need. The fun continued after she had her son Rory, sharing him with her friends and family was her pride and joy. Her fiancé Russell brought her great comfort, and together they were always laughing. She would want all who read this to take away the importance of laughter and sharing it with everyone we can.

Carol had numerous jobs. During her youth she was a ski instructor at Labrador Mountain, a lift attendant at Song Mountain, a Camp Counselor at Hunter Mountain for the disabled, and a recreation leader for a summer living on site at Nicks Lake Old Forge. Once her college education was completed, she was employed at A.R.C. in Syracuse, then moved to Long Island and with her prior nursing home experience, Carol served as the Director of Therapeutic Recreation at the Long Island State Veterans Home, from where she retired.

She is survived by her son; Rory T. Maher-Siems of California, her fiancé; Russell Day of Middle Island, N.Y. a brother; Paul (Bonnie) Maher of Truxton, and a sister Kathryn (John) Touchette, many nieces, nephews, and cousins including her sorority sisters of Alpha Delta Theta S.U.N.Y. Plattsburgh Chapter.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday at 10 a.m. in St. Patrick's Church in Truxton, N.Y. The Christian Rite of Committal and Burial will follow in St. Mary's Cemetery, Cortland.

The family will be present to receive friends on Friday from 5-7 p.m. in the Chapel of Riccardi Funeral Home, 69 N. Main St. Cortland, N.Y.

Those who wish to honor Carol's memory in the form of a contribution are asked to please consider; The Epilepsy Foundation of Long Island 1500 Hempstead Turnpike East Meadow, NY 11554 or Good Shepherd Hospice 200 Belle Terre Rd. Port Jefferson, N.Y. 11777. Condolences may also be sent to the family by visiting; www.riccardifuneralhome.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Riccardi Funeral Home
69 North Main Street
Cortland, NY 13045
(607) 753-1053
riccardifh@icloud.com

Funeral Mass

MAY 9. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Patrick's Church
3652 NY-13
Truxton, NY 13158
(607) 842-6326

Tribute Wall

MD

“ These photos are from our trip to London in 2019. I'm so glad we had this experience together. I'm going to miss cooking with Carol and miss her silly antics. She loved Russell and Rory so, and tried her darndest to hang on for them. She's at peace now and there's no more pain. Rest easy Carol ☐🕊☐



Melissa Abraham Day - May 10 at 03:40 PM

RL

“ Robert & Lenin purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.



Robert & Lenin - May 07 at 04:58 PM

BK

“ Paul, Kathryn, Rory, and Russell,
My sister, Maureen, let me know about Dolly's passing. I'm so sorry to hear about that news. I remember all of you with your parents at the Sheehan reunions years ago. I hope you can take some comfort in Dolly being reunited with your parents, aunts and uncles, and, especially, Father Sheehan. You are in my thoughts and prayers.

Brian Kiely

Brian Kiely - May 07 at 03:18 PM

YA

“ *Your neighbors Julius, Monika, & Alex purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.*



Your neighbors Julius, Monika, & Alex - May 07 at 09:32 AM

MJ

“ *Maria and Joe purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.*



Maria and Joe - May 06 at 03:46 PM

“ I have so many memories with Dolly. From pledging in college, to trips in the US, to her visiting me in South Africa. I will hold on to the sound of her laughter and the devilish plans to cause fun. Somehow, with Dolly, there was always something random to have fun with. Only she would wear zebra stripes on safari to attract the lions (which she did and almost got eaten), go surfing on shopping carts, drop teeth in strangers' drinks, claim everyone was her lover, and lead people to all sorts of trouble.

Underneath all of her silliness was a joy, love, and a deep faith. She found ways to care for, pray for, and hold up people in need. Even when she was not feeling well, she would put on a brave face, bring people together, and laugh. I cannot count the number of times I would get a random call from Dolly connecting me to a long-lost friend. (The last chat like that was with Ira a few months back). Sometimes it would be connecting people who needed an uplift. She also checked in with me daily a few years back when my sister died. She helped me through with laughter and prayers. I hope we can all do the same for Russell, Rory (her pride and joy), and the rest of the family. She loved you all so dearly and was very proud of her extended family, including the new wee ones.

I will miss our connection time. Whenever I came to the US, she would make sure somehow we would meet up - even if it was at a diner before I caught a plane. And she never came empty-handed. She always had some gift for me to squish into the suitcase. Always with a thought to what I needed.

As her health was failing, we often finished our conversations with, "You stay away from that light, ok?" I am sobbing now, knowing she had to go to the light this time. But I also know she will watch over us all and be ready for us when the time comes.

I know, as Dolly did, laughter crosses all barriers, even those between life and the afterlife. So as we remember Dolly, I will remember to laugh.

I send you all my deepest sympathy, love, and healing.

(Lil') Cath Berghahn

The picture I am attaching is from Dolly's visit to South Africa. It has her classic smile. I can hear her laugh. In the background, patiently watching over and adoring her, is Russell. Oh, how dearly she loves him! It was a joy to watch.



Catherine Berghahn - May 06 at 08:50 AM

LA

“ *Lil' Cath Berghahn ADT planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.*

Lil' Cath Berghahn ADT - May 06 at 08:12 AM

LA

“ *Lil' Cath Berghahn ADT purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.*



Lil' Cath Berghahn ADT - May 06 at 08:12 AM

DH

“ *In memory of Dolly we have ordered a grove of trees to be planted. Garth, Darlene & Family, Caralea & Family & Rick & Bonnie. You're in our thoughts, Take Care.*

Darlene Hunter - May 05 at 06:04 PM

SH

“ S.darlene H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.

S.darlene H. - May 05 at 05:55 PM

MC

“ Dolly - my sorority Big Sis - I have so many great memories of our of Plattsburgh days, road trips to Truxton and our sisterhood. You filled my days with laughter, loyalty, and a bond that never fades. Thank you for the memories, the mischief, and the love. Forever my Big, forever in my heart. Sending heartfelt sympathy to Russell, Rory and Dolly's family.

Margaret Cuccinello - May 05 at 01:46 PM

MS

Dolly, we grew up together, and parted as we completed our studies! We once had lost each other, but Nicholas, brought us back together. Now , you join family & friends and I know yr safe never to feel pain but LOVE FOREVER, My love will always be with you my friend! Love Michele B. Stratton

Michele Stratton - May 05 at 08:29 PM

TG

Dolly- You were always so much fun to be with but more than that you cared so much for your family, the sisterhood of ADT and those who were hurting or in need. I was lucky enough to live with you in 3 dorms/apts. and I will always remember the laughter and the twinkle in your eyes when you were about to get into som mischief. I miss you my friend and my sister. Deepest sympathy to Rory, Russell and your whole family.

Tracy Ginn - May 05 at 09:39 PM

MA

*Carol I will miss our family get togethers. You always did so much to make them special!
I know that your tired body is at peace and released from any pain you were enduring. I'm so glad we got to take our London trip together and I pray that you are with your parents who I know you missed immensely. Mike and I will check on Rory and Russ. Love you Carol and rest easy now sweetie ☐🕊*

Melissa Abraham - May 05 at 11:52 PM

LT

“ *Love, The Sisters of Alpha Delta Theta purchased the Beautiful Heart Bouquet for the family of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.*



Love, The Sisters of Alpha Delta Theta - May 05 at 01:37 PM

AM

“ *Ann Marie & Matthew Mannion purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Ms. Carol Anne "Dolly" Maher.*



Ann Marie & Matthew Mannion - May 05 at 01:08 PM