



Sari Ward

July 26, 1954 - June 12, 2013

Sari Catherine Ward, 58, of Wimberley, Texas and formerly Cedar Falls, died at home surrounded by her three children on Wednesday, June 12, 2013, due to complications of Inflammatory Breast Cancer. A Memorial Tea Reception was held in Texas on June 29th. Formal Memorial services will be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, July 15, 2013, at Nazareth Lutheran Church Chapel in Cedar Falls. Interment will follow the service at the Fairview Cemetery in Cedar Falls.

Sari was born on July 26, 1954 in Columbia, Missouri, the second child of Dr. Robert J. Ward and Catherine Balaj Ward. Sari attended high school at Malcolm Price Laboratory School in Cedar Falls and graduated with the class of 1972. She was the proud mother of three children with learning disabilities and devoted herself to the success of their education. She was a constant advocate and cheerleader for the health and education of her family and friends. Sari spent the later years of her life pursuing her career as an Oncology and Geriatrics Massage Therapist. With her many years of research in nutrition and health, Sari was able to assist others in their pursuit for optimum health and well-being, even when her own health was failing her. Sari endured and bravely fought Inflammatory Breast Cancer for over five years and kept a positive outlook at all times. She has touched the lives of enumerable family and friends with her hope for a cure. She leaves behind a legacy of lives influenced by her constant search for a healthier body and

more educated mind.

Surviving Sari are her brother, Sean Lester Ward (Uncle Doo Dah) of Cedar Falls, Iowa; Son, Ward (Ben) Benjamin Thomas and grandson Bryce Sang Thomas of Austin, Texas; Daughter, Alissa Catherine Thomas of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Daughter, Amanda (Mandi) Leigh Thomas of Austin, Texas.

Preceding Sari in death were her parents, Dr. Robert J. Ward, professor of English at the University of Northern Iowa, and Catherine Balaj Ward.

Memorials may be given to the family at www.sariward.com.

Tribute Wall

PW

“Sari was my best friend beginning in the fourth grade at Manual Arts Elementary in Cedar Falls, Iowa until my family moved away in 1967. I spent many a sleepover at 1803 Tremont Avenue, shared steak night with the family and learned to dance the hula with her mother. Sari wrote me many wonderful letters. She was so sensitive and caring as a child. For years I tried to find her, I never forgot her, and I still cherish a gold paisley silk scarf that she gave me for Christmas one year. So sorry to have missed her, sounds as if she has wonderful children to carry on her beautiful memory.

Penny Lentz Wolfe - June 01, 2018 at 01:31 AM

JB

“My heartfelt sympathy with the passing of your sister. She was such a loving person!

Janet Olson Bremm - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM

LM

“My deepest sympathies to all of you. Sari was always a very positive and caring person. The many times I communicated with her through the years, she always spoke of her devotion to family. You were all loved so very much.

Thoughts and prayers in this sad time. Linda

Linda (George) Miller - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM

JH

“ Dear Sean and other family members,

I am terribly saddened to learn of Sari's death. I hadn't seen her in many years, but looking at her picture, I see her mother looking at me. Sean, you were an awesome brother to Sari; not a brief hello between us around town was complete without you telling how she was doing.

*My deep sympathy to you all,
Judy Harrington*

Judy Harrington - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM

GM

“ While I didn't know Sari, I do know the challenges of inflammatory breast cancer and that connects us. No doubt she did all she could to beat the disease so she could be close to those she loved. My thoughts and prayers are with you.

Ginny Mason - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM

MB

“ Doo Dah & Family
Our hearts ache with you in your time of greif. Celebrate Sari's life the way she would have wanted it.

Cuddly hugs & gentle sweet kisses

*Jim, Margo, Spencer & Irelynn Bodensteiner
New Hampton, Iowa*

Margo & Jim Bodensteiner - October 15, 2013 at 03:34 PM