

RYAN, RAMONA HELEN

IN MEMORIAM

Ramona Helen Ryan, 44, of Halifax, died peacefully at home in the company of her husband, family and close friend, on October 24, 2007.

Ramona was a cheerful spirit and was always recognized by her spontaneous and exuberant laughter. She gave her friendship easily and enjoyed creating and appreciating art in all forms. She was full of colour — a gifted painter, poet and singer. At home she immersed herself in her garden, which always overflowed with riotous life.

Born in London, UK, on November 5, 1962, Ramona was the daughter of the late George F. and Mary (FitzRandolph) Ryan. Ramona lived in Jouy-en-Josas, France, until the family moved to Toronto in 1969. She was educated and worked in Toronto until 1989, when she moved to Halifax. She attended Dalhousie University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English.

At the time of her death Ramona was pursuing a Master's degree in Resource and Environmental Management while employed at Dalhousie University as the Program Manager for the Bachelor of Management program. As a student advisor Ramona cared deeply for the students who came to her, many of whom stayed in contact with her after their graduation.

Ramona is survived by her husband, David Hamilton MacDonald; her siblings, Peter G. (Judith Hoegg), Halifax and Caribou Island; Michael (Mary Jane Price), Toronto; and Marcia (Neil Farrow), Ridgefield, Connecticut. Her memory will be forever treasured by her niece, Ariana Ryan; nephews, Corry and Nicholas Ryan; close cousin, Martha Thackray; and many friends, especially Sarah Wakely. She is also survived by her aunt, Margaret Winter, and several cousins in New Brunswick, Ontario, and Austria.

Ramona died of ovarian cancer. So many ills plague our world; however, in memory of Ramona, we are requesting that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Palliative Care Program (QEII Foundation Office, 1278 Tower Road, Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9 – designate Palliative Care). This team of caregivers provides wonderful support to so many people at the end of their life. Through donations they also help fund medicine and equipment for families who may not otherwise be able to provide full care at home for those who are dying.

A celebration of Ramona's life will take place at 2 p.m., Saturday, November 10 at the Calvin Presbyterian Church, 3311 Ashburn Avenue, Halifax.