



## Ms. Margaret "Meg" Lemire-Berthel

September 11, 1955 - August 2, 2024

Margaret "Meg" Lemire-Berthel  
Retired Director of Oncology Social Work  
Lowell General Hospital

LOWELL—Margaret "Meg" (Robillard) Lemire-Berthel, 68 passed away peacefully on Friday, August 2, 2024, following a brief illness. She was 68 years old. Meg was the beloved wife of the late Fredrick "Fred" Berthel who passed away in 2020.

Meg was born in Lowell on September 11, 1955, a daughter of the late Francis and Thelma (Wells) Robillard. She attended the Lowell Schools and was a graduate of Lowell High School. She was a parishioner of the former Sacred Heart Church. Meg received her bachelor's and master's degrees in human services and social work from Springfield College. She began her professional career in Lawrence at Elder Services of Merrimack Valley, before transferring to Lowell General Hospital on February 5, 1990. Meg first worked in the Emergency Department. She then was offered the position of running the social services in the newly established Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center.

Meg was the facilitator of many Oncology support groups, to name a few, Breast Cancer and Prostate Cancer support groups. She was a founding member of the Lowell General Hospital Team Walk for Cancer Care Advisory Committee. Breast Cancer awareness groups include Support the Girls

Campaign at LGH.

Meg was honored with countless award for her work in the community, including Salute to Woman that honors heroes that get the work done, the D'Youville Lasting Impressions Award, the Nancy Achin Sullivan Award and the Sandra Lebaree Award. She was also active with the Lowell General Woman's Auxiliary.

In 2008, Meg had an idea to promote breast cancer awareness: turn bras into purses. Patients and friends were invited to decorate 25 pieces. They went on display at the Chelmsford Center for the Arts. This local show got so much attention, it went on the road, nationwide, for two years, gaining recognition and raising awareness.

Says Meg about another project she was involved with at the Pheasant Lane Mall in neighboring Nashua, NH, "you've got to be creative to get people's attention." She was referring to a 20 ft. long 8 ft. wide super colon model, that raised awareness for the Prevent Cancer Foundation.

Meg was known for a mix of humor, smarts and compassion for aligning cancer sufferers and their families with oncology support services. As a former patient and friend of Meg once said about her, she had no idea the impact she had on other people's lives. People adored her and could feel her compassion for them. Meg was truly a person who made a difference.

Meg is survived by her partner, Buddy Boisvert, her daughter Christine Obera, her son James "Jay" Obera and his partner Juscinta Jones; her step children, David Berthel and Keneth Berthel; Buddy's daughter Kristina Boisvert; her grandchildren, Tyler Rollins, Klye Rollins, and Devin Rollins, and step grandchildren, Derek Berthel, Sarah Moses, Brett Berthel, Shaun Berthel, Scott Berthel, and great grandchild Noelle Berthel; her siblings, Norman Robillard and his wife Maria, Alan Robillard and his wife Sandra; her brother-in-law, Jay Rivera; her nieces and nephew, Regan Robillard, Genevieve Robillard and Anthony Kuhn, Arielle Rivera, and Dominique "Nikki" Rivera; and many dear friends, including Joe and Kate McDonough.

Meg was the sister of the late Gail Robillard Rivera and Wayne Robillard, and

step mother of the late Scott Berthel.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS MAY CALL AT THE FAY McCABE FUNERAL HOME, 105 MOORE STREET, LOWELL ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 2024 FROM 4 UNTIL 7 PM. MEG'S FUNERAL WILL BEGIN ON FRIDAY MORNING AT 9 AM FROM THE FUNERAL HOME, FOLLOWED BY HER FUNERAL MASS AT 10 AM AT THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CHURCH 144 EAST MERRIMACK ST. LOWELL. BURIAL WILL BE PRIVATE. AS AN EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY, DONATIONS IN MEG'S MEMORY MAY BE MADE TO TEAM WALK FOR CANCER CARE, LOWELL GENERAL HOSPITAL, 395 VARNUM AVE. LOWELL, MA 01854.

ARRANGEMENTS BY THE  
FAY McCABE FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
978-459-9222 [www.faymccabe.com](http://www.faymccabe.com)

# Cemetery Details

**A Private Burial will take place with the Family.**

## Previous Events

### Calling Hours

**AUG 8.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Fay McCabe Funeral Home  
105 Moore Street  
Lowell, MA 01852  
(978) 459-9222  
sean@faymccabe.com  
<https://www.faymccabe.com>

### Funeral Mass

**AUG 9.** 10:00 AM (ET)

Immaculate Conception Church  
144 East Merrimack Street  
Lowell, MA 01852

# Tribute Wall

RO

“ Meg was instrumental in helping me during my cancer treatments years ago, always there with words of encouragement and reassurance that I would be ok. Even after treatments I would check in with her from time to time to express my gratitude. I just learned of her passing and am so saddened. You could feel the love she had for all the people she cared for, making a difference for so many of us. It's her legacy and one I shall never forget. My deepest sympathy to her family. Rob.

---

**Rob** - March 20, 2025 at 10:43 AM

CA

“ She was an angel sent by God. Loved her dearly. Will always remember her dearly. My sincere condolences to her family

---

**cathy** - September 06, 2024 at 09:21 PM

SH

“ My sincerest condolences to Meg's family and friends. Meg was my touchstone when I was first diagnosed with cancer and sought radiation treatment at Lowell General. She guided me to the Mindfulness Meditation class that shifted everything for me and patiently worked with my sometimes overly enthusiastic plans to offer creativity workshops for my fellow survivors.



After a successful pilot, participants expressed interest in a painting class, and “Healing Through Art” was born. Over the next 15 or so years until her retirement, she advocated behind the scenes to make sure “Healing Through Art” had an appropriate space to meet, funding for a modest stipend and recognition as one of the most consistently well attended groups at the hospital.

While she never claimed to be artistic herself, Meg had a talent for recognizing what people needed and nudging them in that direction. I will be forever grateful for having known her.

---

**Sheri** - August 28, 2024 at 10:19 PM

DO

“ Donna lit a candle in memory of Ms. Margaret "Meg" Lemire-Berthel



---

**Donna** - August 20, 2024 at 03:37 PM

MP

“ Meg and I both graduated from LHS in the same class. She was sweet, smart, funny and kind. Many years later, when I was first diagnosed with breast cancer, I reconnected with Meg at the LGH cancer center. Meg provided all of us cancer patients with such quiet empathy, humor, compassion, and generous gifts from LGH of throws, pillows -that brought great comfort. She will be greatly missed.

Moira McCarthy Patterson - August 19, 2024 at 10:27 AM

MP

“ Moira McCarthy Patterson lit a candle in memory of Ms. Margaret "Meg" Lemire-Berthel



Moira McCarthy Patterson - August 19, 2024 at 10:19 AM

MB

“ Michelle Bomba lit a candle in memory of Ms. Margaret "Meg" Lemire-Berthel



Michelle Bomba - August 09, 2024 at 08:13 PM

 Christine Obara

“ I'll forever carry you in my heart. I love & miss you mom!



Christine Obara - August 08, 2024 at 01:54 PM

AM

“ Meg helped so many patients handle the difficult diagnosis of cancer, during her time at the Cancer Center. She was warm and funny and kind, and always willing to help. As head of the PR department, we often featured our patients in articles and more, and Meg was the person we went to to find our subjects, because Meg knew everyone. Not just on the surface, but with a depth that honored their soul and their journey. She cared very much. And that is what made her such a gem, and so valuable to the community. My sincerest condolences to Meg’s family and close friends. Although nothing can ever take away your loss, please take some comfort in knowing Meg was an amazing person, whose warmth and care touched and lifted up so many people during the most difficult times in their lives. She will long be remembered and deeply appreciated.

-----  
**Amanda MacFadgen** - August 08, 2024 at 09:32 AM

JC

Meg was one of a kind ,she had so much love and compassion for her famoly and friends and of course her patients. Meg helped so many deal with a differcult diagnosis and helping them get assistance so they could focus on their treatment. Meg was truly outstanding a will be so missed by all who knew her .Sending prayers and hugs for her family and all her friends 🙏❤️R.I.P my dear friend love you

-----  
**Jan Conway** - August 08, 2024 at 04:24 PM

LS

Meg was such a big help to our pt's,She will truley be missed by her children,Buddy and Tina

-----  
**lisa sweeney** - August 08, 2024 at 07:31 PM

SR

“ Sean And Erin Rourke lit a candle in memory  
of Ms. Margaret "Meg" Lemire-Berthel



---

**Sean and Erin Rourke** - August 07, 2024 at 05:48 PM