

Patsy Gail Anderson

Patsy Gail Anderson died February 2, 2025 in Nijmegen, the Netherlands where she had made her home since 1970.

Born November 27, 1943 in Boston, MA, Patsy also lived in Glencoe, IL (outside Chicago) and then Rochester, NY. Both her parents were physicians; her father became dean of the Rochester Medical School, while her mother was Kodak's company doctor.



She arrived from Rochester to Mt. Holyoke in 1961 during the infamous hurricane Esther, and was assigned a Pearsons Dormitory temporary double with **Lucy Taylor Bremner**. They roomed together three years. Senior year found them both in Porter where Patsy roomed with **Denise Thompson Smith**; all three were part of the House President's group. Post graduation, Patsy was in frequent contact with classmates who formed "The Porter People" and who have stayed in regular contact through annual and bi-annual newsletters.

Sunny Steadman writes: "Patsy Anderson was a dear friend. We spent time together at our 50th Reunion, and in September of 2015, I got to visit with her at her home in Nijmegen, the Netherlands. We shared a wonderful lunch where she showed off her Cordon Bleu skills. Such a generous soul, I shall miss her at our 60th and always."

Jackie Berkowicz shares: "Patsy and I reconnected at our 25th reunion and then shared some wonderful travel experiences. A special trip to Berlin in 2010 for a full Beethoven symphony cycle began with a 3-hour "English Language Walking Tour". We learned so much about the city that we forgot how cold we were! Indeed, a very special friend, Patsy encouraged me to become an active MHC volunteer and to attend other European Alumnae Symposiums."

Patsy majored in Chemistry and in 1965 was designated a Mary Lyon Scholar. In 1963, she met her future husband Wes Metzger and they were married in 1965 shortly after graduation. They lived on Long Island, NY, where Patsy taught Chemistry and Wes worked at Brookhaven National Laboratory. In 1968, they moved to Paris where Patsy took Cordon Bleu cooking classes and then, in 1970, they moved to Nijmegen, the Netherlands where both their sons were born.

Patsy dedicated herself to her children and was very active in various parent associations. In the early 1990s, she studied neuropsychology and later worked as a researcher at the Maartenskliniek, eventually heading a research department. In 1994 she secured her PSYD at the Catholic University of Nijmegen. Several years after divorcing Wes, she married Henk van Dijk in 2003, who died in 2007. Patsy and Henk attended our 40th class reunion in 2005.

Patsy remained closely in touch with the class of 1965 and Mount Holyoke. She served as Reunion Co-Chair in 2000 and was Treasurer and then Secretary for the Netherlands Alumnae Region. She attended several MHC European Forums and enjoyed visiting family and friends making regular trips to the US and Europe. Prior to becoming ill, she continued to be active in her local church and played an instrumental role in her church's program to welcome and support immigrants.

She is survived by her son Marc (Tineke) and grandchildren Hilde, Gonda, and Tijkla, her son Karl, and her sister Roberta (Bonnie) Pagon.

Photo/Family Information: provided by Marc Metzger.

Posted: March 2025.

Mount Holyoke European Alum Council newsletter

Spring 2025



We are saddened to report the recent passing of Dutch alum **Patsy Anderson '65**, who died in early February after a long and gruesome fight with Alzheimer's disease. Patsy was a very active member of the European and Dutch alum network. She attended the very first Symposium in London in 1987 and played a vital role in the organization of the Amsterdam Symposium in 1997.

As long as her health allowed her to, she was a regular attendee at local alums events in the Netherlands and she is remembered as a strong and resilient member of our community.

Posted: April 2025.