



Patricia Bell Magee "Patti"

October 8, 1950 - January 17, 2016

Patricia Bell Magee, "Patti", age 65 of Orlando, Florida passed away January 17, 2016.

"Something that is loved is never lost."

— Toni Morrison, Beloved

EARLY MORNING FOG

Early morning fog
Shrinks the universe
To a manageable size,
A giant's magic trick,
With none of night's eerie distortions.
It's more like a child's game--
Hiding under a blanket
With a teddy bear,
Stolen cookies,
And a wild imagination--
Cocooned in a safe oblivion
Of soft, fuzzy white.
-- Patti Magee

Contributions appreciated to the following charities:

National Council of Teachers of English

<https://secure.ncte.org/store/fund>

Villalobos Rescue Center

<http://www.vrcpitbull.net/dog/how-you-can-help/donations/>

Tribute Wall



“ *If it weren't for Ms. Magee I wouldn't have made it in college. She pushed me so hard in high school and we so much friction between us. As it turned out, when I got to college I wrote a paper so well it was published in the college news letter. I had her proof it of course before final submission to the paper. You don't know what you are learning until you are sent out into the world.*

Sonya Rye Wilson - November 30, 2019 at 02:52 PM



“ *This sucks, Ms. Magee was literally the best teacher I ever had. I was searching Google to reconnect with her 11 years later, and it seems I was a year too late. RIP Ms. Magee*

Brian Byrd - April 16, 2017 at 08:09 PM

LR

“ I found out about this so late.

I am absolutely heartbroken.

She was my favorite teacher in high school... in hindsight! While in her class, I would get kicked out and sometimes in trouble, but I know it's because she so desperately wanted me to pay attention and learn. Looking back that meant SO much. She got me into European culture and art, she got me dreaming about travel, etc. I took my first trip to Europe in 2013 and thought of her!

She even invited me over for brunch a year or so ago after I had moved to Maine just to catch up. She made the BEST banana muffins. We even talked about meeting across the country when we were both on the road in the future.

When I worked at Whole Foods, she could come visit and stop by and chat. She told me to travel now, because she had a friend who waited all his life to retire but he died a few weeks before retirement of a heart attack. That will ALWAYS stick with me.

I am hosting our reunion this summer and I am honored to have a beautiful framed photo of her on our memorial table.

I love you Ms. Magee! Until we meet again.... <3

Laura Ross - April 26, 2016 at 04:15 PM

MS

“ I worked with Patti for many years at TCHS...I admired her for her tenacity and spirit...she left her mark and inspired many people...she will always be remembered. ❤️❤️❤️

marilina simon - February 06, 2016 at 01:53 PM

MA

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marilina.simon@ocps.net - February 06, 2016 at 01:52 PM

Candis Roby


“ Whenever I visited Patti's room the students were engaged and happy. She made literature come alive for them. As a reading coach I would visit her room for inspiration on days that was needed. Thank you, Patti for the inspiration!



And during March Madness, Patti made the most amazing humus! I miss that so much since leaving TCHS.

Patti, I hope your spirit is exploring Alaska!

Candis Roby - February 06, 2016 at 10:25 AM

 Aaron
James

“ *Patti Magee was one of the most special people I've had the privilege of knowing. She transcended the position of teacher and embodied the very notion of what it means to truly be an educator; a guide and light for young minds. She inspired me every day of my senior year of high school. She brought literature and the English language to life. She supported and encouraged my personal artistry and creativity. She insisted that I competed in the Shakespeare competition for the English Speaking Union and I wound up winning. She never let me do less than my best and I learned to trust myself and my own abilities and talents because of her spirit. Even after years of not being in her classroom, she still found little ways to encourage and support me from a far, whether it be little Facebook notes or financially supporting me and my adventures around the world. To say that she will be missed does not describe truly how I feel knowing her spirit has left this world. Safe journeys, Ms. Magee. And I hope to see you on the other side. All my love to you and your sweet daughter.*

Aaron James - January 25, 2016 at 06:07 PM

RE

“ *Patti was one hell of a woman. She was a force that couldn't be stopped. In the 16 years that I knew her, she continually inspired me to be the best person I could. Sunny, I am so sorry for your loss. From one English teacher's daughter to another- you mom will always live on in the lives of the students she touched on a daily basis. You will be sorely missed, Patti. Thank you for everything you've done for the world.*

Robin Eskin-Fieler - January 25, 2016 at 05:52 PM



“ A sympathy card was purchased for the family of Patricia Bell Magee "Patti".



January 25, 2016 at 05:07 PM



“ I got to know Patti as a high school sophomore when I voluntarily elected to take her Speech 1 class. I was an introverted kid who didn't feel comfortable speaking in front of anyone - much less a classroom full of my peers. That semester I learned a lot about how to be a better speaker, so much so that I continued to take all of the classes she taught that were available to me. We travelled many miles across the southeast where I competed in forensics tournaments - not something I would've ever envisioned doing. Yet, like many others, she had determined I had potential, and she was going to pull/push me out of my comfort zone until I could see how limitless my opportunities were.

I learned SO many things from Patti - how to learn from failures and turn those learnings into future successes - how rules aren't always logical or right, and knowing when and why to break them is critical. Some of my fondest memories of Patti were of when we'd be tooling around Florida in her VW Rabbit listening to music, talking about school, current events, or lamenting typical teenage experiences. After graduation I had the good sense to continue to see Patti on a regular basis, and she made a point to visit me at college and when I moved to Nashville.

What I found so cool about Patti is she treated her students as peers, yet you always knew who had the authority in the relationship. She treated her students with respect (unless, of course, you acted like an idiot). Outside of my parents, she had the most impact on my development and who I am as an adult.

Orange County has lost a tremendous teacher, a presence unlike any other I encountered as a student. With a loss this significant I can only take comfort in knowing that there are hundreds (if not thousands) of other former students out there who feel the same way I do. The legacy she left and the impact she made on all of her students is one that every teacher should aspire to deliver.

Erin Evans - January 25, 2016 at 03:49 PM

JR

“ Patti was in many ways my mentor as we traveled with her CHS speech and debate teams and later worked on National Boards and master degrees. Her ability to provide a safe haven for students while prodding them to work harder, harder, harder became my goal as a classroom teacher. With her ability to reset and break paradigms, Patti demonstrated the need for teachers and parents to be creative and imaginative, stern and compassionate, the life-long learners we want our children and students to be. She was as proud of her students (including my son and daughter) as she was her own daughter. Education has lost a fabulous teacher and we have also lost a wonderful, funny, and insightful friend. Thank you for giving so much of yourself to others Patti. You will forever have a very specific place in my heart.

Jean Rivera - January 24, 2016 at 04:35 PM

SM

“ Patti is a special person. We have been friends since the mid 60's. We went to college together, were in Germany at the same time and tried to keep in touch through the years. I miss you my friend.

Sandy Modlin - January 24, 2016 at 07:22 AM

SM

“ 2 files added to the album New Album Name



Sandy Modlin - January 24, 2016 at 07:09 AM