

Catherine Munro Fenner (6.3.2.2.1)



Fenner, Catherine Munro, "Cat", age 60, passed away on Thursday, February 6, 2020 in Murfreesboro, TN. Born October 31, 1959 in Bronxville, NY, she grew up in Houston, TX, Birmingham, AL, but spent most of her childhood in Winter Park, FL. She eventually settled in Nashville, TN for the majority of her adult life. She is a graduate of Trinity Preparatory School and the University of the South.

Cat was passionate in her work and life. She felt so fortunate to spend 25 years as executive director of not-for-profits that she truly cared about— 8 years as Executive Director of TN-NARAL, advocating for women's reproductive rights, followed by 17 years as Executive Director of the Tennessee Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Cat felt fortunate to have lived such an exciting and full life. She enjoyed traveling, food, laughing with friends, and relaxing with the community of people at her favorite retreat, Rock Haven, and of course the companionship of her many Golden Retrievers. She always tried to find the good in people, loved life, respected the faith of others, was often politically-motivated, and never turned away from the people and causes she cared about. Most of all, she adored her children, Munro and William and proudly embraced her role as a grandparent, known as "Mamma Fenn" to her grandchildren, Flora and Oliver.

Ms. Fenner was preceded in death by her brother, Stanley Darwin Fenner, and her son, William Hardie Bender. She is survived by parents Carol Stanley Fenner of Winter Park, FL and James Hardie Fenner of New Orleans, LA,; her sister Dorothy (Dorsey) Hardie Fenner of Atlanta, GA, her daughter Munro Bender Hixon of College Grove TN, and her two grandchildren Flora Munro Hixon and Oliver Thomas Hixon. In lieu of flowers, Cat requested that donations be made to the Planned Parenthood Federation, the National Parks Foundation, or the Alpha-1 Foundation.

A celebration of life gathering will be held at a place and date to be determined, which will take place later in the spring.

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