

Joan Sargent

Hanover - Joan Sargent, 52, died Tuesday at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center

She had been diagnosed with breast cancer 5 1/2 years ago and waged a gallant fight that was an inspiration to friends, family and others with her illness.

She was born July 11, 1945, in New Haven, Conn., a daughter of Richard Collier Sargent Jr. and Barbara (Male) Sargent. After graduating from Unquowa School in Fairfield, Conn., she graduated from Green Mountain Junior College and the University of Denver.

She was the harpist of the Norwalk Youth Symphony and attended a summer session at Indiana University. During her summer breaks, she was a counselor at the Connecticut Camp for Special Needs Children.

After college, she taught in the American School in Salvador, Brazil. She traveled to every country in South America.

After receiving her M.Ed. from Boston University, she taught reading in the Boulder, Colo., elementary schools for 23 years. In Boulder, she was active with the National Organization for Women, national adoption agencies and the Mt. View Methodist Church.

She spent her summers at her family's farm in Hartland. She moved east to Hanover in 1995. She taught skiing, was active in the International Women's Club, the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College and two book study groups.

Her greatest joy in life were her two daughters. She loved classical music, reading, skiing and hiking in the Rockies. Along with her journeys in South America, she traveled across the United States and through Mexico.

Survivors include two daughters, Susanna Rosalinda Sargent and Alicia Kingsbury Sargent, both of Hanover; her mother, Barbara Sargent of Hartland; a brother, Richard C. Sargent III of Hartland; two sisters, Linda Sargent Reinfield of Cambridge, Mass., and Carol Sargent Dunning of Corcord; and six nieces and nephews.

There will be no calling hours.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday at 3 p.m. in the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College with the Rev. Dr. Carla Bailey officiating.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in her memory may be made to the Music Fund of the Church of Christ at Dartmouth College, 40 College St., Hanover, N.H. 03755; or the American Cancer Society, in care of Lisa Wentworth, volunteer memorial chairwoman, 8 David Drive, Lebanon, N.H. 03766-1017.

Funeral arrangements are under the direction of the Rand-Wilson Funeral Home of Hanover.