



## Stephanie Myers Schim

March 15, 1951 - February 19, 2016

Schim, Stephanie Myers, 64, died suddenly February 19, 2016 of complications from a fall she suffered in October 2014. Most recently Assistant Dean, Wayne State University College of Nursing, Dr. Schim had a career spanning public health, nursing administration, and academic nursing. She consulted internationally, including the Ministry of Health of Iraq. Her research in Cultural Competency as well as End of Life Decision Making is often cited by other scientists. Dr. Schim was inducted into the American Academy of Nursing in 2013. She is survived by her son, Michael Myers Schim, of Osaka Japan.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 in Royal Oak, at St. John's Episcopal Church, 11 Mile and Woodward, with a family hour at 10 a.m. and a Mass of the Resurrection at 11 a.m. The family requests no flowers. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Dr. Schim's honor to the Wayne State University College of Nursing, 5557 Cass Avenue, 131 Richard Cohn Building, Detroit, MI 48202. Arrangements by Wm. Sullivan & Son Funeral Home, Royal Oak, [www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com](http://www.sullivanfuneraldirectors.com).

# Previous Events

## Memorial Service

APR **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church  
26998 Woodward Avenue  
Royal Oak, MI 48067

# Tribute Wall

LL

“ Stephanie was a vibrant and brilliant public health nurse and manager. I had the privilege and pleasure of working with her for many years at Oakland County Health Department. She was a mentor and positive role model for my professional development and career advancement. I am forever grateful to have worked with such a fine professional. May she rest in peace and may God Bless her family with pleasant memories.

Lillie Leverett

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Lillie Leverett - April 29, 2016 at 10:52 PM

MS

“ Stephanie was best friends with my college roommate Marilyn. I got to know her and her great sense of humor as an undergrad. Many years later we re-connected at a workshop she gave on end-of-life at St. John's in Royal Oak. She was a fun person and I was in awe of her professional and sewing/costume skills for the community theatre. Smart, engaging, a bit larger than life - Stephanie was a wonderful person and such a gift to the nursing community. Peace to her family and all who loved her. MGS

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Martha Shea - April 28, 2016 at 02:28 AM

“ I met Stephanie through some mutual acquaintances in the late 1990s. As we got to know one another we learned we had much in common – love of concerts which we attended together at Hill Aud in Ann Arbor, enjoyment of language, being in helping professions (she in nursing and me in teaching), and our shift around 2000 into academic careers (she at Wayne State, my alma mater, and me at UM-Dearborn) where we both taught the next generation of helpers – whether as nurses or teachers.

I recall one night after a concert that I had a crossword puzzle book and we enjoyed doing a couple puzzles together. The next time I saw Stephanie she had a Kindle and a subscription to the NYTimes puzzles. She was an addict. I realized our fun had re-ignited a long-lost passion of hers.

Because we only got together a couple times a year and I was not in the WSU circle, it was not until Sept. 2015 that I learned about her horrific accident. I steeled myself for our first visit, unsure what to expect and how to behave. I was tremendously relieved to find that Stephanie was herself. Sitting up in bed, she and I could have the same conversations about teaching, language, politics, communication, and caring for others that we loved. Because my classes last fall were all late afternoon or evening, I was fortunate to be able to visit her often.

I am on a phased retirement, so I did not teach this winter. In January I was in Thailand with my husband. S and I stayed in touch by Skype and she even got a tour of our tiny condo. I decided then that in Feb. while Howard was still gone and I was home without classes, I wanted to be with Stephanie and help her, especially to have an online life. I was fortunate to visit her three times a week for the first three weeks in Feb. I met her many friends from her very wide friendship circle. We did online shopping, we discontinued unneeded subscriptions, she enjoyed novel foods I'd bring (like shwarma or blackberries), we did some crossword puzzles and we continued reading a book we had started in the fall. On Stephanie's

*behalf I would like to recommend this book to you all. It is called Stuffed: Adventures of a Restaurant Family by Patricia Volk. I think she would encourage you to look for it.*

*I was with her for an extended visit on Thursday Feb. 18. She was herself and we were looking forward to organizing her drawers the following week. I had brought her walnuts and berries that I thought she'd like with her cold cereal for breakfast. She enjoyed that day a perfectly ripe pear I had brought. We were unable to get the head-mouse to work but together we did some phone and online business and enjoyed the continuation of our book. When we got to parts of the story that were too emotional for me to read, she read the book to me. We expressed our affection for one another as we often did. Before I left I made sure she had her call-pipe to signal the aides and that the TV was set for her. I offered to plug in the computer but she knew it was well charged. We joked that we needed a 'departure checklist.'*

*That turned out to be her last day. She never had the walnuts and berries because she did not live to the next breakfast. I am so glad I had committed myself to being with her intensively in February and so blessed that I was able to carry it out.*

*I will never forget Stephanie. Already, I think of her when I read a book I know she would enjoy, when I do a crossword puzzle, or when I hear a piece on the radio that she would want to discuss. She lives on in my heart and I know in the hearts of many, many others. I was deeply blessed to have her in my life.*

*Rheta Rubenstein*

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**Rheta Rubenstein** - March 17, 2016 at 08:58 PM