



Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe

July 27, 1946 - May 24, 2024

Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe, 77, of Nashville, Tennessee, passed away peacefully on May 24, 2024, after a courageous battle with cancer.

Born on July 27, 1946, in Waverly, TN, Pat was the daughter of Marie and George Patterson. She graduated from Waverly Central High School in 1964 and soon after moved to Nashville where she would have an illustrious career in the music industry.

Pat's career in the industry began in 1966 when Lamar Fike of Hill & Range Songs invited her to join the company. Over the next few years, she worked with legends such as Johnny Cash, Marty Robbins, Eddy Arnold, Hank Snow, Eddie Rabbitt, Bill Monroe, and George Morgan. A highlight of her early career was her work with Elvis Presley.

In 1972, Pat became General Manager of Hill & Range Songs, making history as one of the first women to head a major publishing company.

After the company's acquisition by Chappell Music in 1973, she continued to excel, helping the company earn ASCAP Publisher of the Year seven times. Her leadership and vision were instrumental in the success of writers like Rory Bourke, Charlie Black, and many others. Pat eventually rose to the position of Vice President at Chappell Music and continued her influential work until

1987.

That year, Pat transitioned to ASCAP, where she served as Director of Membership Relations before being promoted to Vice President, a role she held until her retirement in 2010.

She was pivotal in nurturing the careers of many successful artists and songwriters, including Tony Mullins, Trevor Rosen, Hillary Lindsey, Josh Kear, Craig Wiseman, Chris Tompkins, Tim Ryan, Dierks Bentley, Brad Paisley, and Wynonna. Beyond her professional achievements, Pat co-founded the SOURCE Nashville organization and the Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament. She also served on the boards of the Nashville Songwriters Association International (NSAI), Nashville Music Association, Baptist Hospital, and the Copyright Society of the South.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions to the industry, Pat was inducted into the SOURCE Hall of Fame in 2012. Pat is survived by her loving husband of 54 years, Mack; her stepchildren, John (Vanessa), Jim (Mary K), and Dick (Michelle); seven grandchildren; and brothers, Jim, Mike, Joe, and Charlie Patterson, and sister, Margaret Simmons. She was preceded in death by her parents, Marie and George Patterson, and her brother Jerry Patterson, and sister-in-law Ann Patterson.

A visitation with the family will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2024, from 9:30 until 11:00 at Green Hills Community Church with the funeral service beginning at 11:00 am with the Rev. Charles Moore officiating.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to the Bonaparte's Retreat Dog Rescue, 3310 West End Ave. Suite 400, Nashville, TN, or Green Hills Community Church, or a charity of your choice.

Pat Rolfe's legacy will live on through her immense contributions to the music industry and the many lives she touched with her kindness and generosity.

Austin & Bell Funeral Home in Springfield is in charge of these arrangements.

AUSTIN & BELL FUNERAL HOME-

509 WALNUT STREET, SPRINGFIELD, TN (615) 384-1000

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 29. 9:30 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Green Hills Community Church
5035 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37215
<http://www.greenhillscommunitychurch.com>

Funeral Service

MAY 29. 11:00 AM (CT)

Green Hills Community Church
5035 Hillsboro Pike
Nashville, TN 37215
<http://www.greenhillscommunitychurch.com>

Tribute Wall

“Pat was more than just a friend, colleague, and mentor; she was a beacon of warmth and strength. Her laughter, a sound so genuine and infectious, could light up the darkest of rooms. It was the kind of laugh that made you feel at home, that reminded you of the simple, unadulterated joy of being alive. In every chuckle, in every smile, Pat shared a piece of her boundless heart with everyone.

Her grit was unparalleled. In the face of challenges, Pat stood firm, a pillar of strength and determination. She showed us all what it meant to persevere, to face adversity with unwavering courage and grace. It was this very tenacity that made her a force to be reckoned with, both in her personal life and in her professional career.

Pat's legacy is deeply intertwined with Source, an organization that flourished under her guidance and vision. It was Pat who saw potential in me, who extended a hand and asked me to join Source. She believed in my abilities, often more than I did myself, and encouraged me to rise to the occasion. Serving alongside her on the board was an honor and a privilege. Through her mentorship, I learned not just the intricacies of leadership, but the profound impact of leading with heart and integrity.

Pat was a true connector of people, a cultivator of communities, and a nurturer of dreams. She had an uncanny ability to see the best in everyone and brought out their potential. Her influence extended far and wide, touching countless lives with her kindness and unwavering support.

We will try & carry forward her legacy of love, laughter, and grit. Let us strive to live with the same openness, to face our challenges with the same courage, and to spread joy with the same generosity. Though she may no longer be with us in person, her spirit will forever reside in the hearts of all who were fortunate enough to know her.

Rest in peace, Pat. Thank you for everything you gave us, for every

laugh, every moment of support, and every ounce of your incredible spirit. We are better because of you.

Jill Napier - May 29, 2024 at 09:45 AM



“ 126 files added to the album *LifeTributes*



Austin & Bell Funeral Home - May 28, 2024 at 06:05 PM

BF

“ *Betty Blackwell and Celia Froehlig purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe.*



Betty Blackwell and Celia Froehlig - May 28, 2024 at 03:02 PM

TS

“ *The Copyright Society of the South purchased the Fiery Lily and Rose for the family of Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe.*



The Copyright Society of the South - May 28, 2024 at 11:59 AM

LF

“ John Rolfe and Family,

Sincerest condolences from the Loeb family to your family.

Derek Crownover, Tiffany Dunn, Keane Barger, Lindsey Fuller, Grace Heller, Willie Jones, Megan Pekar, Tim Warnock, Rob Kouchoukos, Monika Tashman, Bess Morgan, Tina Francis, Janelle Hawkes, Collen Kelley, Logan Fletcher, Rengie Mendoza, Monet Suchovsky and Janeen Rabideau - Nashville

Lindsey M Fuller - May 28, 2024 at 10:13 AM

DC

“ Derek C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe.

Derek C. - May 28, 2024 at 10:03 AM

JB

“ I had the privilege of working with Pat in my very first job on Music Row as receptionist at Chappell & Co. She was a joy to work with and kept the office energetic and upbeat. I'll never forget the phone pranks husband Mack would play on us - calling in and impersonating a big celebrity looking for songs and getting Pat all worked up - and me as well! After Chappell was sold to Warner Bros. I lost my position but Pat helped me get an immediate second job on the Row. As a young worker I was terrified at getting laid off and I will also be grateful to Pat for jumping in and finding something for me and believing in me. Pat leaves a huge void in our music community with her passing. May Light Perpetual shine upon her and give her Peace, Joy and Rest with our Lord. Praying for Mack and the entire family for God's Peace and Comfort to blanket them. Thank you, Pat, for being such a champion to our song creators.

Janice Bane - May 28, 2024 at 09:06 AM

TF

“ We extend our heartfelt condolences to your family, as you mourn the loss of Pat. The precious memories you shared with Pat will live in your hearts forever. Our family is keeping your family in our prayers and we know God will give you strength to face the days ahead. **THE BLACKBURN FAMILY.**



The Blackburn Family - May 27, 2024 at 10:58 PM

LG

“ I met Pat at Chappell Music in 1976 when I would travel to Nashville from Canada looking for songs for Canadian Artists to record. Pat would pitch me songs and we would socialize and we became good friends. With Pat's encouragement I decided to move to Nashville and open a US division of my Entertainment Management Company. Pat was so kind to me and introduced me to several Nashville music industry people. A few years later I moved to Las Vegas and became involved in the Casino Resort Industry and as a Senior Vice President one of my responsibilities was entertainment. I had a concept of presenting songwriter nights in the round at casino venues for multiple performances to audiences of 3,500 each night. Pat and I had always maintained our relationship so I went to my old friend Pat and she connected me with Craig Wiseman and we created for a period of fifteen years several songwriter performances in major casinos. Once again Pat was the conduit to make it possible. I enjoyed spending personal time with Pat and Mack and quite often in the company of Jerry and Connie Bradley. Pat had such a warm vibrant personality and a great sense of humor and I often told Pat if she ever decided to leave the music business she could be successful as a Stand Up Comedian. Pat always made me laugh. Pat was a strong supporter of myself throughout the years. My condolences to Mack and Family. I will miss my old friend. RIP Pat.....LARRY GREGSON

Larry Gregson - May 27, 2024 at 10:02 AM

TT

“ I met Pat in 1985. Her best friend and partner in crime, Connie Bradley introduced us.

Pat was so kind to me, my wife Sylvia and to our son Joshua. We had so much fun as a family going to Fort Myers during Christmas breaks and spending time with Pat and Mack, Jerry and Connie Bradley, the Wendalls and the Durhams. Pat always brought our then young son gifts to have on the trip down there and back. She made him feel “welcome”.

Pat was also a fantastic songplugger who turned every pitch appointment into a party.

Her love and advocacy for songwriters was always on full display. Pat, I will miss you my dear friend but I can't wait to see you again and to look into your glorified eyes.

Troy Tomlinson

Troy Tomlinson - May 26, 2024 at 05:24 PM

TL

Pat and I worked together at ASCAP for ten years. She was always full of energy and friendly to everyone she met. She had her opinions but knew how to spot talent. I always enjoyed our ASCAP get together parties at ASCAP and especially at Christmas. She was a unique Christian lady who made her mark in life and on the Nashville music industry. Another great friend gone on to glory.

Tom Long

Tom Long - May 26, 2024 at 05:47 PM

CW

“ Craig and KK Wiseman purchased the Sentiments of Serenity Spray for the family of Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe.



Craig and KK Wiseman - May 26, 2024 at 10:31 AM

CW

“ Craig and KK Wiseman planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Linda Patterson "Pat" Rolfe.

Craig and KK Wiseman - May 26, 2024 at 10:31 AM

CW

“ Pat was one of the first to treat me like a real hit songwriter. Her and Mack embraced me like long list family and my wife KK and I still tell the stories of our travels and adventures with “ Pat and Mack”. Her loyalty to the ones she loved was her legacy. God Speed Pat and God bless you Mack.

Craig Wiseman - May 26, 2024 at 10:28 AM

DC

Pat was a good friend. She has a great sense of humor. We made fun of each other every time we spoke or emailed. She talked about how backwards I was being from Tullahoma and I just laughed and barbed right back at her. She and Connie and had a few long lunches at the Palm. She always gave me a big hug and smile at ASCAP events. She was one of the try songwriter beacons and ambassadors. My life is better, fuller, richer, from my relationship with Pat. Rest in Peace sweet lady, you did some great work here.

Derek Crownover - May 26, 2024 at 11:01 AM

DC

A gift in memory of Pat Rolfe was received by the Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament and United Cerebral Palsy of Middle Tennessee from the staff and volunteers of United Cerebral Palsy. “Pat Rolfe was the best volunteer a charity could ever hope to have. She never forgot us. The day we learned of her passing, we received a donation from her in the mail. Pat was a hard worker, and she gave her time to develop the Music Row Ladies Golf Tournament for over thirty years. But more than that, Pat knew how to laugh and have a great time. She will be dearly missed.”

Deana Claiborne - May 28, 2024 at 08:57 AM