



## Miriam Costello

May 27, 1919 - May 30, 2011

Miriam "Daisy" Esmail Costello, 92, of Newington passed away on Monday, May 30, 2011 at home surrounded by family and friends. Born in New Britain, Miriam was the daughter of the late George and Miriam Oshana Esmail and the widow of Joseph Costello. Miriam's enthusiasm for life and spirit of adventure inspired all who knew her. She will be remembered for her sense of humor, quick wit, honesty, compassion, generous heart, sense of style, and devotion to her family and friends. Miriam's passions included writing poetry, travel, music, theater, reading, advocacy for children, and Robert Redford. When asked to share her secret for a healthy and happy life, Miriam advised, "No cooking and no housework!" She graduated from New Britain High School, served in the Women's Army Corps during World War II, and earned an associates degree from Post Junior College in Waterbury, a bachelors degree from Columbia College in Chicago, and a masters degree from the University of Hartford. Miriam was a teacher in the Newington public school system, retired in 1989 and continued to volunteer in the schools, senior center, and other community organizations until her recent illness.

She is survived by her son, Kevin and his wife Tracy of Florida, her daughter Darce of Wethersfield and numerous nieces and nephews. Miriam was predeceased by her sisters, Sue Sargis, Katherine Esmail, Lois Esmail, and brother William Esmail. Her family is grateful for the love and support of Miriam's friends and neighbors, especially Christine Chernick and Sue Terry.

Miriam believed the most valuable legacy one could leave behind was lots of happy memories, and that is exactly what she did.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Friday 10 AM at St. Patrick - St. Anthony Church, 285 Church Street, Hartford everyone is requested to go directly to the church. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Calling hours are Thursday 6 to 8 PM at Carlson Funeral Home, 45 Franklin Square, New Britain. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity that benefits children. Please share a memory or note of sympathy by clicking on "Add Condolences" at the bottom of this page.

# Tribute Wall

MP

“ Dear Family of "Mrs. Costello" - I am someone whose life was transformed by Miriam Costello. I was a highly intelligent six year old who struggled with dyslexia. Besides refusing to put an ill-fitting yet convenient label on me as "learning disabled" she helped me to access my innate potential. In the years we worked together she saw the fact that I viewed the world differently as an asset not a liability. She was a positive, devoted advocate for ME. She understood that I was wired differently NOT defective! Other teachers and administrators in Newington had low expectations for me. Not Mrs. Costello! She was my biggest fan and lovingly called me Mary Marvel. Today, I have a BA degree in journalism to think! and art history I also have a BFA . I've had a successful career as a marketing and executive speech writer. I am a successful visual artist and the mother of two genius IQ children. I devote a lot of time to working with high ability yet quirky kids and to helping their Moms cope! I am and will always be grateful to Miriam Costello. Bravo on a life well lived. Mary Elizabeth Marvin Peterson, Westport, CT

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**Mary Elizabeth Peterson** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

DI

“ Miriam was a great person and the best neighbor you could have. I will miss hearing her sing as she sat in her kitchen. Her poetry-writing and other great memories will always be remembered. Darce and Kevin, my heart goes out to you. Love, Diane

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**Diane** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RC

“ Our deepest sympathy. Ms. Costello was a friend and a adviser. We will miss her dearly.

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**Ryan Yeu and Caitlin** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

RC

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**Ryan Yeu and Caitlin** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM

SM

“ *Mariam opened her home to me and my sister Melissa as though she were a long time friend and she didn't even know who we were. She was warm and funny and smart. She LOVED people and we LOVED her.I will miss her very much .Love Susan May*

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**Susan May** - September 20, 2016 at 12:00 AM