

# Haddam Garden Club

A Tribute to Our Dear Friend, Susan Ruddy

March, 2022





*The Haddam Garden Club pays tribute to Susan Ratty*





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[Email Announcement sent out to members of the Haddam Garden Club]

**Subject:** Sad news

Hello my gardening friends.

It is with a broken heart that I tell you that Susan Ruty passed away last night. Our thoughts and prayers are with Wayne and her entire family.

Sadly, Debbie

*President, Haddam Garden Club*

The club will make a donation of \$100 to Haddam Public Health, per the family's request.

Susan was a person I looked forward to meeting either at Garden Club or at Club 60, Stop and Shop, Shoreline Soup Kitchen or planting daffodils at the Senior Center. She always seemed pleased to see me and her friendly greeting made my day. The first time I worked with Susan was on the cookbook committee. She was the one who encouraged us to produce a well-organized, quality product and her help dealing with the publisher was invaluable. I know that she will never be replaced in our hearts as the ultimate garden club volunteer—a role she never sought but always accepted with grace and good will.

I wish for Susan the eternal joys of Heaven as a reward for all her goodness here on earth. You could see by her smile that there was much goodness inside, and her actions proved that. Sincere sympathies to her family and friends...



I agree, there aren't enough words to describe how many ways Susan touched people always smiling and positive in thoughts and deeds.

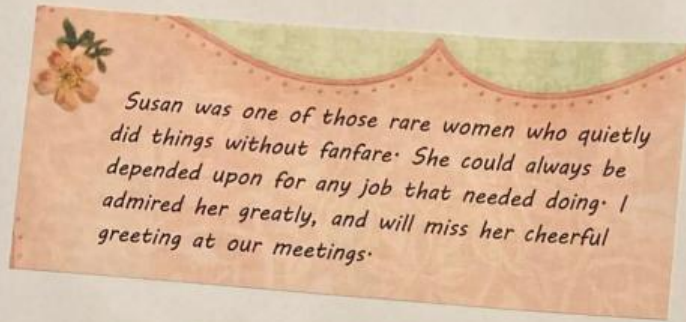


To me, Susan was the kindest, gentlest soul I have known. She had a gift for reaching out to those who needed it most and when she asked how you were doing, she truly wanted to know. I am a better person for having known and learned from her. Her spirit will be missed by everyone who knew her.

*In a divisive world, Susan was a healer. She was genuinely warm and kind. She was a hard worker for good causes. She will be greatly missed.*








*Susan was one of those rare women who quietly did things without fanfare. She could always be depended upon for any job that needed doing. I admired her greatly, and will miss her cheerful greeting at our meetings.*



She will be in our hearts forever.

*Susan was truly dedicated to our club. She stepped up like no other. She will be greatly missed.*



*Susan did indeed touch countless people's lives and I suspect almost everyone in this organization has a memory of her that they cherish. She stepped in to volunteer for many, many jobs that needed someone, from saying yes to being our President, to more than once serving on our Scholarship Committee. She is irreplaceable. She will be missed.*



*I consider Susan Ratty to be a Hadden ambassador of the strongest kind. As President of the Hadden Garden Club, she assisted confidence, kindness, and graciousness to me and all members. Her long-standing involvement in the community of Hadden and the Hadden Neck Fair made her a wonderful bridge for Hadden Garden Club to become involved in the Hadden Neck Fair. I am grateful to have gotten to know and love her. With all kindness and sincere condolences to her family.*



I am so saddened by Susan Ratty's passing. She was such a lovely lady, willing to help with any of our projects. She will be surely missed. Rest in peace.



We have lost one wonderful woman.  
She will be missed.



*She was a wonderful lady.*

I have known Susan since 1990 through our mutual love for dogs, but it wasn't until I retired in 2015 as I was looking to volunteer somewhere in town that she encouraged me to become a member of the Hadden Garden Club. She was my sponsor and mentor, and a great one at that! I will miss her humble personality, her big smile, her outstanding commitment to civic duty, and above all, her kind friendship. The souls and the pets in the afterlife received a truly wonderful gift, and I know she will continue her good work with them. xoxo.







Oh dear. This is beyond sad. She was my garden buddy. She took me under her wing when I first joined and didn't know anyone. We've remained close ever since. This is just so heart-breaking.



Susan did indeed touch countless peoples' lives and I suspect almost everyone in this organization has a memory of her that they cherish. She stepped in to volunteer for many, many jobs that needed someone, from saying "yes" to being our President more than once to serving on the scholarship committee. She is irreplaceable. She will be missed.



I too am deeply saddened by Sue's passing and will miss her strength, kindness and giving nature. She helped me so much when Mark died and I will always be grateful to her for that. Rest in peace, dear friend. ♥





Susan was a gracious, ever-patient and kind person. When I first joined the Haddam Garden Club, she welcomed me and made me feel as if I had been a member for years. Susan's spirit of community and service will be remembered by all those whose lives she touched. She will be dearly missed. It is so hard to find the right words to express the loss we all feel.



She will be missed. She always had such a cheery attitude and forged on even in declining health, volunteering and helping, it seems everywhere.



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Oh how sad. I am so glad now that we named the Haddam Neck Fair Bouquet Award for her so that she knew how valued she was. Too often honors only come after a person is gone.



I think that it is safe to say that all of us who were fortunate to have known Susan loved her dearly. She touched all of us in her beautiful way.



Susan was the sweetest person and a real trooper when it came to volunteering. I worked with her getting the photos for the Community Center framed and hung. She will indeed be missed and the Bouquet Award at the Haddam Neck Fair in her honor will mean even more.





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*Susan will go down in history as our Queen of Volunteers. This fine lady is comfortable in heaven making all around her as special as she treated her family and friends.*



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How sad. Susan was a beautiful person. She certainly lived her life to the fullest and has left behind many wonderful memories. She will be missed by many.





I want to share that in a conversation with Susan a few weeks ago, she requested that the spring bouquet named for her at the Haddam Neck Fair be rotated in recognition of different members. My response was "absolutely not!" as this award was named for her as a long time, valued supporter of our community, our club and the fair. She wasn't comfortable with the attention, humble and gracious as always.

This year it will be particularly poignant.