

# In Memoriam

## Cluny Affiliate Shirley Hurta

### My Mom

Christie Hurta

The world lost a beautiful soul when my mom passed away at the age of 76. She was diagnosed with MS over 40 years ago, and within five years, was unable to move from the neck down. She had four young children, my dad traveled a lot for business, and yet she always made sure we all had a life full of choices and opportunities, and were never limited by her condition.

She faced every challenge with grace and dignity. She never complained about her MS, but always demonstrated an enormous amount of compassion and empathy for others. Her internal strength came from her faith, and the love of so many.

She was incredibly generous. She didn't care about material things for herself, but chose to help others, especially in countries where the poverty level is unimaginable. She never asked for recognition or praise, and was forever humble.

During her last days in hospice, I "spoke" with her a lot about the phenomenal mother she was, how many lives she positively touched, and admitted that I wasn't always a great daughter. I could be impatient and abrupt, which she never deserved. I asked for her forgiveness; I know it was granted, not only because that's what moms do, but also because she had a huge heart and always forgave us all.

Despite wishing for even one more day with her, we knew she was ready to go, her time had come, and she's at peace. I miss her so much, and continue to figure



Photo: Jessica Hurta

**Shirley Hurta**

out how to live a life without her in it. She was the best mother and role model, and being her daughter was the greatest gift and privilege I could have hoped for. She has my gratitude and love, always.

## Remembering Shirley

Sister Josephine St. Leger

Shirley came to Cluny School in 1979 to register her family - our first meeting. We became good friends. We were both in a new place and venture. These were good years as the children developed and became very supportive in the family. Shirley's illness progressed, but her mind was sharp and she guided and supported the work at home.

Shirley became totally bed-ridden by the time she and her family moved away from Newport. However,

she never forgot us at Cluny and supported us for many years.

In 2018 at our request, the Congregation awarded her spiritual affiliation in recognition of her strong support over the years. She has and will continue to benefit from the prayers and works of the sisters.

Now that she has gone home to God and is with Don again, I feel she has not forgotten us and our years together. May God reward her generosity and the example she has left us.