



## Patricia Ann Sorich

July 22, 1929 - October 10, 2021

Patricia Sorich, 92, of Butte, Montana, died on October 10, 2021, at the Community Hospital in Anaconda, Montana, from complications of COVID-19 – but not without a valiant fight.

Patricia Anne, Pat, or Patsy, was born in the throes of the Great Depression to Butte natives Newton and Mary McDonald, nee Erskine, on July 22, 1929. At that time, the family lived at 1020 Post Street in the Haight-Asbury District of San Francisco, California. She and her parents returned to Butte in 1933, and in 1935, her father died. For the next 14 years, Pat lived primarily with her mother and her Irish immigrant grandmother Mary “Minnie” McCarthy. Pat spent one school year and several summers with her paternal grandmother, Anna Rostad, in Virginia City, Montana, where they often camped in a wall tent on a nearby mining claim named the Patsy Anne. Pat completed her education at Catholic schools in Butte, and graduated from Girls Central High School in 1947.

After the end of World War II, Pat met a young man from Butte who was recently discharged from the Navy. Because he was Serbian Orthodox and she Irish Catholic, the young couple decided to elope after a two-year courtship. On August 20, 1949, they borrowed a car and drove to Anaconda, waiting briefly at the Club Moderne for the Justice of the Peace to get off shift from the smelter to marry them. Together Steve and Pat had three children, Stephen, Susan, and John. The family lived primarily in the McQueen Addition of Butte but when the Berkley Pit encroached on the small neighborhood, they moved the family -- and the family home -- to Wilson Street on “the flat.”

From the time she was 12, Pat had a job. She started by babysitting then later understood that if she fibbed about her age she could work after school at the five-and-dime. As a young adult, Pat worked in the credit department of Hennessey’s Department Store and at a local credit bureau before beginning her 30-year-long career at Metals Bank, now US Bank, retiring in 1985 as the personnel officer.

Throughout her life, Pat was an unconditional caregiver to her family and a tireless community volunteer. Always on the go, she gave freely to various service groups; Saint Ann’s religious education programs, the choir and funeral committee; the mining museum; and the county literacy center. Yet Pat’s passion was working with and coordinating local tax aid programs for close to 26 years, where she also nurtured many friendships.

Pat was happiest when helping others or spending time with her family and friends. She, along with Steve, loved anything that involved their grandchildren. Together, they organized sleep-overs and road trips, they watched with beaming pride countless hours of dance and music recitals; swim and track meets; baseball, basketball, and football games; and wrestling matches. One of her greatest joys, however, was being a great grandmother.

Pat was preceded in death by her husband Steve in 2007 and by her parents and in-laws Obren and Stella Sorich, brothers-in-law and their wives – Mike Sorich; John and Lee Sorich; and Al and Ann Sorich. Many family members predeceased Pat, but she cherished their memories, saved their notes and photos, and relayed their stories to ensure that those she loved are not forgotten.

Pat is survived by her three children and their spouses and children: Steve and Kathy Sorich of Billings, Montana, and their daughters, Annie Sorich and Patrick Hayes and their daughter Marielle of Montréal, Canada, and Jenny Sorich and Amanda Hess of Portland, Oregon; Susan and Con Malee of Anaconda and their sons, Dale “DJ” and Angela Malee and their children, Andrew, Ella, Ryan, Cayden and Grayson of Chandler, Arizona, and Brian Malee and Justin Borchert of Sun River, Oregon, Kevin Fischer and Caiti McCrary and their children Remy and Thea of Bozeman, Montana, and Marcus and Katelyn Fischer of Kalispell, Montana; and John and Cindy Sorich of Butte and their sons Jacob Sorich and Rik Sorich both of Butte. She also is survived by her cousin Phil Hannifin of Reno, Nevada, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to your favorite charity in Pat’s name. A celebration of life will be held at St. Ann’s Catholic Church in Butte, on Friday, October 22 at 11 a.m. with visitation beginning at 10 a.m.

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

OCT **22**. 11:00 AM.

St. Ann'S Catholic Church

# Tribute Wall

CW

“ John - I am so very sorry to read of your mom's passing.

*Charlene LeProwse Warren*

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**Charlene Warren** - February 03 at 03:12 AM

KW

“ Kathleen Wise purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Patricia Ann Sorich.



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**Kathleen Wise** - October 19, 2021 at 02:55 PM



“ I spent many a Copper Kings game visiting with Pat. You will be missed by many!

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**Barbara Cass** - October 19, 2021 at 01:18 PM