EDDY--Ellen Stover, of Short Hills, New Jersey and Bayville, Maine died on Monday, June 16, 2014. A memorial service will be held on Saturday, July 19th at 2pm at Christ Church in Short Hills. Ellen was born to the late Charles and Jane Stover on February 2, 1940. A graduate of Smith College, Class of 1961, Chapin House, she was a lifelong active alumnus. She was a member and former president of the Short Hills Garden Club and a co-founder and owner of Patchpoint, Ltd. She is survived by her husband of 51 years, John S. Eddy, her daughter Hilary Eddy Lafferty and her husband Wayne Lafferty and their three children Kristin, Ashlyn and Megan Lafferty, brothers Charles and David Stover and many nieces, nephews and cousins. She was predeceased by her son, John "Jeff" Eddy. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial contributions to www.smith.edu or www.greenwoodgardens.org.

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(Below is from recent emails)

Dear 1961 class officers,
I'm sorry to report that Ellen Eddy died on Monday of lung cancer. She was diagnosed early this year and thought she could conquer it but unfortunately it spread. ... As you may know her son Jeff was killed at age 21 by a drunk driver in 1988. She is also survived by many close friends from our class at Smith and elsewhere.
It's hard to imagine that we lost someone so full of energy and enthusiasm for life. ...
Sadly,
Edie Smith
Jun 18, 2014

Dear All,
Along with those of you who didn't know Ellen was ill, I was absolutely stunned when Nancy S. and Edie emailed me the tragic news! Then Nancy Bissell's beautiful and moving letter to John arrived, capturing the spirit and magic that was Ellen. I regret not knowing Ellen the way you Chapin-mates did, but after reading Nancy's letter ... she IS the bright penny described!

I smiled when Marion wrote of Ellen's boutique business! Years ago I ran into Ellen at a Christmas bazaar in Greenwich and bought a belt which I still have although it no longer fits my current waist. (I'm ever hopeful!) Then, at Smith for our 50th, I complimented Louise on the beautiful red and black-accented jacket she was wearing for the Saturday night dinner. She said it came from Ellen, so I asked Ellen if she had others like it. She didn't but offered the one off her back! My phrase, not hers:) It is a black and white number which weighs nothing and packs easily. I smiled at Marion's comment because I, too, envisioned myself looking as stylish as Ellen. I don't ... but the jacket is now a keepsake and will return for our 55th!

This has been a hard spring for our little band of officers. Special love to Marion and to all of you who knew Ellen like family.
Joyce Spencer
6/21/2014

Hi Everyone,
Ever since I heard of Ellen's death, I have been trying to process the news. How could such a lively, vibrant person be taken from us so quickly? And what does that say about the unpredictability of life? If Ellen could be taken so quickly, when she seemed so healthy and full of life, one must think, "What hope is there for the rest of us?"
These might seem like very selfish, narcissistic thoughts, but Ellen was a standard bearer, someone against whom we all measured our personal well-being. And with her loss, we all feel more vulnerable. She was a sun and a moon around whom we revolved, and we so appreciated the light and energy that she cast on us.
She made a difference in so many lives--she was just such a good friend--what more could one ask for in a life well lived? I think especially of her close Chapin friends, her husband John, and her family, and send you my sympathy--
Best, Lynda Spence
6/22/2014