



## Christine M Darrohn

December 13, 2024

Christine M. Darrohn, 61, formerly of Norristown, passed away suddenly on Friday, December 13, 2024 at her home in Farmington, Maine. Born in Pine Hill, NJ, she was the daughter of John M. “Jack” Darrohn, Jr. of Norristown and the late Jacqueline A. (Weidner) Darrohn. Holding an MFA in creative writing from the University of Arizona in addition to a PhD in literature from Rutgers University, Christine was widely published in peer reviewed journals regarding English literature. She often gave lectures at the MFA conferences. Currently, she was an associate English professor at the University of Maine, Farmington. Her writings were especially about the English author Virginia Woolf, and English literature during WWI. She will be remembered for her collection of fine pottery and ceramics.

Survivors: father Jack; brother Jeffrey, both of Norristown; cousins Joyce, John, Debbie, Donna, and Douglas.

Services; 2:00 PM, Friday, December 20 at Trexler Funeral Home, 1625 W. Highland St., Allentown, PA 18102. Calling hour will begin at 1:00 PM.

Memorials can be considered to American Cancer Society, c/o the funeral home.

# Cemetery Details

## Grandview Cemetery

2735 Walbert Ave.  
Allentown, PA 18104

# Previous Events

## Calling Hour

DEC 20. 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Trexler Funeral Home  
1625 Highland Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
(610) 434-9616  
info@trexlerfh.com  
<https://trexlerfuneralhome.com/>

## Funeral Service

DEC 20. 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM (ET)

Trexler Funeral Home  
1625 Highland Street  
Allentown, PA 18102  
(610) 434-9616  
info@trexlerfh.com  
<https://trexlerfuneralhome.com/>

## Graveside Burial

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DEC **20**. 3:00 PM (ET)

Grandview Cemetery  
2735 Walbert Ave.  
Allentown, PA 18104

# Tribute Wall

HZ

“ Professor Darrohn was my favorite teacher I've ever had. She was obviously passionate about books and writing, but more importantly, she was caring and compassionate towards her students. Her office was always open, and she would spend as much time as she could helping and talking about whatever you needed. I would not be where I was professionally or personally without her guidance and kindness. I feel so grateful that I got to be her student, and am sorry for anyone at UMF past, present, or future, that did not get to be in her class or know her.

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**Hannah Zimmerman** - December 23, 2024 at 05:54 PM

SY

“ I worked with Chris for ten years at UMF, I will always remember her for the kind way she welcomed me to the community, advising me as I adapted to teaching comp to UMF students. For most of the ten summers I worked there I also served on summer assessment committees chaired by Chris, her warm laugh, dedication to student learning, and collegial nature were a model for me as I eventually stepped into leadership roles. She will long be remembered and missed.

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**Shana Youngdahl** - December 20, 2024 at 05:12 PM

MB

I am only a neighbor who shared a love of books and writing, told her about a British WWI author I read— she was hoping to write a book. I was writing books. (I'm a former UMF student long ago ) but I lost touch with her as she was so very busy and I was too Always told her if she needed anything I was close by. Seems sad not to have known her as the academic community does. Peace be with her. I will miss hearing her summer front porch laughs

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**Margaret E. Brinton** - March 19, 2025 at 07:57 AM

CL

“ Chris and I first crossed paths when I returned to finish my degree at UMF as a non-traditional student. I learned a few weeks into the class that I didn't need to take the course as I had previously earned credits that would cover the graduation requirement. Chris asked me if I would drop the class, but I told her no, as long as she continued to push me to development my writing and critical thinking skills. She promised she would and I left her class with a new sense of confidence in my writing and as a scholar. Despite having just one class with her, I continue to visit with her and bounce ideas throughout my entire time at UMF. I truly appreciated her ability to listen, ask powerful questions, and share her passion for writing, literature, and British period dramas. She is and will be missed.

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**Claudia** - December 19, 2024 at 09:55 PM

PO

“ Chris was a rare person. I think everyone who had the opportunity to work with her at UMF knew that there was no one more devoted, no one more trustworthy, hard working, intelligent and kind than Chris. She gave the institution and her students her all, and we are all the better for it. My deepest sympathy to her family.

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**Patricia O'Donnell** - December 19, 2024 at 08:35 PM

CA

“ I will always remember Professor Darrohn fondly, her laugh especially. You couldn't help but join in with her. She will be very missed.



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**Cassidy** - December 19, 2024 at 02:59 PM

SS

“Chris was one of the most important and cherished mentors I've ever had. I was blessed to be her student in two classes (20th-Century British Lit which focused mainly on Victorian novels, and Modernist Literature) in Spring 2019 and Spring 2020 when I enrolled as student in the BA program in English at Univ of Maine Farmington, late in life (in fact, I am exactly the same age as Chris). When we had to switch to Zoom due to Covid, in April 2020, she showed the same dedication and passion for her teaching and her students that she had shown face-to-face. She opened doors and windows into literature and attentive reading that were revelations to me, and she also helped me with my writing, because although I was already considered a strong writer I had never fully mastered the rules of grammar. She wrote one of my letters of recommendation when I applied to PhD programs in literature as a late-blooming literary scholar, and I was accepted in the English dept at URI in 2020, where I'm now in my 5th year and a doctoral candidate. Over time we gradually progressed from professor-student to mentor-mentee to friends. Based on my work in her 2020 course I wrote an essay on D. H. Lawrence that Chris helped me rework and rework until it was accepted for publication in the *Journal of D. H Lawrence Studies* (published in 2021). She was so insightful and so generous with her time and energy. Then, with regard to a different essay I wrote, which was based on my work in her 2019 course, on *Jane Eyre*, Chris worked with me with prodigious amounts of her precious time and energy for more than a year, especially in the summer of 2023, until it was accepted for publication and it was published in the *Journal of Victorian Culture* in Spring 2024. She is acknowledged in both of these publications. I left Farmington in Aug 2020 to start my PhD program but returned to Farmington a few times per year and Chris and I would meet for dinner and share ideas and perspectives, most recently in late July 2024 when we were at Homestead and she shared with me at length about a new course she was going to be teaching in the Fall for UMF and already, in July, she had been actively immersed in choosing readings for it and conceptualizing how she wanted to approach the course and creating her syllabus. She literally devoted

*a substantial chunk of her summer to that. She was an incredibly dedicated educator, I really can't find the words to express how generous and committed she was, and also how knowledgeable, with profound insights into deep works such as the stories of Katherine Mansfield and the novels of Virginia Woolf and D. H. Lawrence (about whom she was ambivalent, appreciating both his strengths and his limitations). Chris was irreplaceable. I will miss her so much, but I will try my best to carry forward her values and her legacies in my reading, writing, teaching, and learning for my remaining years. My condolences to her family, friends, and colleagues. May her memory be for a blessing.*

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**Shanee Stepakoff** - December 19, 2024 at 02:39 PM

KP

“ *My thoughts go out to the loved ones of Professor Darrohn. Her passion for literature was contagious and made learning fun. I feel lucky to have been a student of hers.*

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**Kristalyn Phipps** - December 19, 2024 at 12:43 PM

KK

“ *Chris was my favorite professor as an undergraduate at UMF. The passion she held for what she taught and her high standards for the work we put out was admirably and the spaces she always created were welcoming energized. One of my favorite pieces of literature even now is a piece she taught in class, and I still hold the same copy dearly! She will deeply missed by all who have had the pleasure to meet her!*



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**Kaitlyn Knight** - December 19, 2024 at 12:40 PM

MK

“ Chris was a wonderful professor and a kind soul. I met Chris over 13 years ago when I joined the faculty at UMF. One of my favorite memories of Chris is the sound of her laughter resonating across the 2nd floor of Roberts. Chris would meet with students often, and in those meetings she would laugh with students. Her laughter always made me smile. Chris had such a beautiful smile and such a warm heart. She loved UMF, and students and faculty loved her. We are devastated by her passing, but we will always remember Chris as one of the most dedicated faculty to teach at UMF.

Misty Krueger - December 19, 2024 at 12:09 PM

MB

“ Professor Darrohn was one of the best educators that I ever had. Further, the lessons learned in her classroom helped me become the teacher (and critical thinker) I am today. Her expectations were high and her passion for literature infectious.

Moe Beaulieu - December 19, 2024 at 12:00 PM

LB

“ Chris will be deeply missed at UMF by her colleagues and most importantly her students who adored her. Rest in Peace, Christine.

*Linda Beck, Farmington, ME*

Linda J Beck - December 19, 2024 at 08:01 AM

DN

“ I have so much respect for Chris. She has been my colleague at the University of Maine Farmington for 17 years, and I have never seen her be anything but kind, extremely capable, and lovely to be around. I will miss her, and my thoughts are with her family and friends.

Dawn Nye - December 18, 2024 at 08:37 PM

JC

“ Chris was a devoted, all-in teacher, a valued, hard-working colleague, and a sweet human being. I will miss her. - Jonathan Cohen (former colleague at UMF)

Jonathan R Cohen - December 18, 2024 at 07:51 PM

DS

“ My deepest sympathy and Christian love are extended to the entire family at this time of loss and grief. May the peace of the Risen Christ offer comfort and hope in the days ahead.

Doctor Smith - December 18, 2024 at 02:38 PM

SS

“ Sonny, Anne & Susan purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Christine M Darrohn.



Sonny, Anne & Susan - December 18, 2024 at 10:27 AM

AB

“ It's been years since I saw Chris, and yet the memories are so fond. We were colleagues from 2000-2011, I as Provost at UMF, she as an English professor. As UMF during that period embarked on a journey to take its mission as a public liberal arts college more seriously, Chris was a wonderful ally—not that she and I always agreed but our core values were the same. And so I always valued her perspective. Chris routinely managed to transcend whatever tensions characterized faculty-administration relationships and for that reason, along with her excellence in all aspects of the professorial role, seemed to be universally liked and respected. My sincere condolences to her family.

Allen Berger - December 17, 2024 at 03:02 PM

SH

“*Professor Darrohn was one of the sweetest people I have ever encountered. She was so deeply passionate and caring, both for her students and her subject matter. With her guidance I became an incredible writer. She taught me a different way to fall in love with the art of language. I hope I can continue a small part of her legacy by helping others discover that no detail is too small to be important.*

*My sincerest condolences to her family, I cannot imagine how much pain this loss must cause them. I hope it offers some solace to know that the UMF campus is grieving alongside you.*

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**Sam H.** - December 16, 2024 at 02:02 PM