

Obituaries



JOHN B. CHRISTY, IV, MD, 29, of Cranston and Warwick, passed away unexpectedly on April 24, 2023. Born July 18, 1993, in Providence, he was the beloved son of John B. Christy III and Joan J. M. (Mancini) Christy, and the twin brother of Mary-Evelyn V. Christy. In addition to his parents and sister, John is survived by his loving fiancée

Grace Chen and her adoring family of North Attleboro, MA.

John graduated high school from La Salle Academy in 2011 in Providence. He went on to graduate with a bachelor of science degree summa cum laude from the University of Rhode Island in 2016, where he was a founding member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, an experience he always thought back on with much fondness. He went on to be accepted into the medical program at New York Medical College in 2017 and graduated in 2021, a feat he, his family, and his fiancé were so incredibly proud of. John went on to be accepted into the residency program at Kent Hospital, where he was able to care for patients alongside his incredible team.

John was a true Rhode Islander, he loved Narragansett Bay and a cold Narragansett beer, and never wanted to leave the state for long periods of time. He loved nothing more than a day out on the water. In 2021, his best friend Brock Thompson introduced John to fishing, which instantly became his beloved pastime, spending many hours at his favorite fishing spots around the State. On warmer days, you could find him racing around on his boat, *The Blacktip*, out on the waterways of Rhode Island. When he wasn't out chasing his next greatest catch, John was in the kitchen cooking up his latest gourmet recipe.

John's beloved dog Winston took up much of his time as well, with daily wrestling matches taking place on the kitchen floor, to the amusement of the whole family. John also had an affinity for music and would rock out on his drum set either solo, or in years past, with his band.

He tried to live his life to the fullest, a lesson his family and loved ones will carry on through their lives. John was an avid proponent of organ donation, and we ask if you ever find yourself in the position, please consider donating and saving a life. We are very proud to say that that was John's last act of selflessness on this earth. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the ASPCA or any animal shelter are greatly appreciated to honor John's memory and love for animals.

Please share memories and condolences at www.Woodlawn-RI.com ❖



MARCIA KATZ, MD, 65, died on March 26th after a three-year relentless battle against pancreatic cancer. Although she entered the world just five minutes behind her identical twin Debbie, Marcia forged her own path. Born to Trudy and the late Jerome Katz of Cranston, Marcia spent her early years exploring the flora and fauna of Roger Williams Park,

which sparked her love for all things plant and animal.

After graduating at the top of her class at Cranston West, Marcia matriculated at Brown University, and graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology. She began her medical education at Boston University School of Medicine and then completed Internal Medicine Residency at Boston City Hospital, followed by a Pulmonary and Critical Care Fellowship at BU's Pulmonary Center.

She served as Baylor College of Medicine's Associate Chair of Medicine for Clinical Affairs and Medical Director of the Department of Medicine. In addition, she was the Chief of Adult Medicine at Texas Children's Pavilion for Women and spearheaded the development of Baylor's Lung Institute.

Her impact on the Cystic Fibrosis community is unsurpassed. She was the Medical Director of the Baylor Maconda Brown O'Connor Adult CF Center and sat on the Center Committee of the CF Foundation, the governing body of CF center accreditation. She also served as the Co-Principal Investigator of the CF Therapeutic Development Center.

In 2012, she was awarded the Ben and Margaret Love Foundation Bobby R. Alford Award for Academic Clinical Professionalism, Baylor's highest award given to a medical school faculty member, recognizing her outstanding humanism.

In 2016, she moved to Florida and was named Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs at University of Central Florida College of Medicine. During her time at UCF, she worked closely with UCF hospitals and the community to build an academic clinical service system that will benefit patients and students for years to come. When she retired in 2020 to spend time with her family and travel the world, she earned the title of UCF Professor Emerita.

While working as a full-time physician, Marcia was also a full-time mom to her two daughters, Becca and Jess. As Marcia faced cancer, Becca and Jess were by her side, laughing at her dark humor, hugging her tightly, and exploring the flora and fauna of the world.

Marcia faced cancer without missing a beat. She continued to travel the world with her husband Asher, visiting Rwanda,

Botswana, and Namibia, to name a few. She took a bike and river cruise on the Rhine with her twin sister Debbie and some of her best friends. On that trip she biked over 100 miles and made it look easy.

Before she passed, while wearing her red shirt that says "Optimist," Marcia instructed her family to reserve energy only for love and positivity. She is survived by her daughters Becca

and Jess Wolinsky, mother Trudy Katz, twin Debra Katz, sisters Elyse and Michelle Katz, and husband Asher Aremband.

Contributions in Marcia's honor may be made to the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, 1500 Rosecrans Ave., Suite 200, Manhattan Beach, CA 90266 (www.pancan.org) or to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, 4550 Montgomery Ave., Suite 1100 N, Bethesda, MD 20814 (www.cff.org). ❖