



Sujata Rose Roy

May 8, 2022

Sujata Rose Roy passed away May 8, 2022, in Woodbridge, VA, with her husband Robert Roy Jr. by her side. By 43, she had lived a fully engaged, happy life as a loving wife and mother of two daughters, Anaiah, 13, and Jasmine, 11, despite suffering from sickle cell disease.

Her gifts as a cultural bridge throughout her life reflect her background and her ability to accept every person for who they are. Born in Bombay (now Mumbai), India, in 1978, she was raised in Yarmouth, ME, and graduated from Portland Public High School, where she shone as a leader in diversity issues.

Sujata studied psychology and social work at George Mason University 1998-2002.

Through membership in Alpha Phi Omega Service Fraternity, she established a deep friendship with Michelle Richardson, who remains a close friend of the family. She also began her journey as a Christian, leading eventually to her baptism in St. Mary of Sorrows Catholic Church in Fairfax, VA, and a close relationship with her Godmother, Mary MacPherson, who supported Sujata and her children in their faith.

After college, Sujata proudly facilitated youth supplemental education programs through Huntington Learning Centers in Fairfax and focused on maintaining her health as she coped with sickle cell anemia.

She began a two-year-long courtship with George Mason classmate Robert, who proposed to her in 2007 in Portland, ME. The couple welcomed their first child, Anaiah Rose Roy, on Dec. 5, 2008. On Dec. 31, 2009, Sujata's father, Christopher Nyhan, officiated their civil marriage in Portland, ME, with Catholic marriage conducted by Rev. Father James Barkett at the historic St. Mary's Church in Fairfax Station, VA, on April 24, 2010, and Sujata's friend Michelle Richardson as maid of honor.

On Sept. 9, 2010, the couple welcomed their second daughter, Jasmine Anne Roy, whose middle name was given in honor of Sujata's maternal grandmother, Anne Nolan.

Sujata devoted herself completely to the raising of Jasmine and Anaiah, who were both baptized in the Catholic faith. She advocated strongly for their early education and worked tirelessly to ensure opportunities for their growth spiritually, emotionally and intellectually. Between managing her children and her health, she spent her days reading the Bible and building friendships in her church and local community. She remained an active parishioner of St. Mary of Sorrows and also attended her local parish of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Roman Catholic Church in Lake Ridge, VA.

Sujata established close relationships with her medical community, including hematologists, other specialists and nurses, partnering with them in her care because she educated and advocated for herself to such a degree that they welcomed her input in critical decisions. Perhaps partly due to her own studious and brave efforts, she lived longer than most sickle cell patients.

She retained a love of Maine, where she had arrived in the coastal village of Yarmouth without English at the age of three, immediately winning the hearts

of her new family and community. She, in herself, helped transform the community into a welcoming place for people from other cultures.

Sujata loved her Virginia home for her relationships with people of all backgrounds. She loved Maine for the ocean, nature, and her happy childhood. She adored her daughters, her husband Rob, her cats, and the life she was able to lead with strong family support. She left her irrepressible mark on close friends from college like Michelle, church friends, her medical community and others.

Sujata is survived by her husband Robert Roy Jr., her daughters Anaiah and Jasmine; her mother Patricia Nyhan; her father Christopher Nyhan and wife Carmela Palanda; her brother Alex Nyhan and wife Debee Yamamoto; brother Adam Nyhan and wife Kini Schoop; her father-in-law Robert Roy Sr. (wife Shirley Roy deceased); sister-in-law Robin (Roy) Harbs and husband Robert Harbs; brother John Roy; and brother Jason Roy and wife Laura Roy.

A funeral Mass will be held on Friday, May 20, at 10:30 a.m. at the historic St. Mary's Church , VA-123 & Fairfax Station Rd., Fairfax Station, VA 22039.

Contributions may be made to the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, and Catholic Charities Maine.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

MAY 20. 10:30 AM (ET)

St. Mary's Church
VA-123 & Fairfax Station Road
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

Tribute Wall



“ *Sujata Rose Roy*

January 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ *So sorry and saddened to hear of Sujata's passing. We had some wonderful childhood memories together in Yarmouth and I will always cherish them. Sending my condolences to the family during this difficult time.*

Nidhi Mehta - May 25, 2022 at 12:18 AM



“ *I was a neighbor, friend, and classmate of Sujata's when I first moved to Yarmouth. I am so sorry to hear of her passing and send my condolences to all her family.*

Nicole Niehoff - May 23, 2022 at 04:34 PM



“ *I went to school with Sujata in Yarmouth where we grew up and I remember her laughter and smile. My prayers and condolences go to your family 🙏*



Jessica Lippert Haefner - May 23, 2022 at 03:51 PM



“ *Pat, I am so very sorry to hear of Sujata's passing. Peace to you and your family.*
Sharon Morgenstein

sharon morgenstein - May 23, 2022 at 03:42 PM

MV

“ We hold you all in our heart and mind with love and wonderful memories of the Nyhan family whose devotion, strength and generosity gave Sujata the opportunity to meet a wonderful partner and create a beautiful family.
Maryanne & Bob Vitalius

Maryanne Vitalius - May 22, 2022 at 10:40 AM



“ Heavenly and Harmony was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.



May 21, 2022 at 01:16 PM

EL

“ Sending my Condolences. May Sujata journey well and in peace. She was given the gift of marriage and motherhood despite what doctors said she could/should or couldn't/shouldn't do. All in all, I will always admire her desire to make every moment count. ❤️

May her husband, daughters and everyone who loves Sujata experience unmeasurable peace during this difficult transition. 🙏

Erica Lewis - May 21, 2022 at 12:48 PM

JL

“ Deepest sympathies to Rob, the girls, and the whole family. Beautifully written tribute by Sujata's mother Patricia and well read by her brother Adam. Thank you for allowing us to share in the celebration of her life. In memory of Sujata, a donation has been made to Sickle Cell Disease Association of America. Respectfully, Johanna L.

Johanna L. - May 20, 2022 at 11:22 PM

MP

“ Sending love and sympathy to all who knew Sujata. I knew her in college and still remember her smile and light. Throughout her struggles there was always a sense of peace and happiness she brought to a room. Thankful to have spent time with her.

Megan (Andre) Parmar - May 20, 2022 at 09:55 PM

DS

“ Dick, Kirkja, Tor, Lara, Per, & Sylvia purchased the Joyful Memory for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.



Dick, Kirkja, Tor, Lara, Per, & Sylvia - May 20, 2022 at 04:02 PM

PJ

“ 1 file added to the album Sujata Family Memories



Per Janson - May 20, 2022 at 10:13 AM

RH

Dear Nyhan and Roy Family: I want to extend my deepest sympathy to you all in the passing of Sujata: We went to school together in Yarmouth. I clearly remember her in my kindergarten class. Blessings to you all at this difficult time.

*Sincerely,
Robert Hodsdon*

Robert Hodsdon - May 24, 2022 at 10:02 AM



“ *Florist Choice Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 19, 2022 at 02:27 PM

AG

“ *If only I could access our storage unit I could dig out some wonderful photos and memories with Sujata playing in the neighborhood. Sending so much love to her whole family. XOXOXO Abby (Swardlick) Gagnon*

Abby (Swardlick) Gagnon - May 19, 2022 at 02:20 PM

CM

“ *Catherine T. Maniaci purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



Catherine T. Maniaci - May 19, 2022 at 01:25 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 19, 2022 at 04:53 AM



“ *Love, Uncle Bill and Aunt Marilyn purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



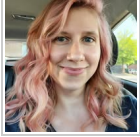
Love, Uncle Bill and Aunt Marilyn - May 18, 2022 at 04:52 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 18, 2022 at 12:52 PM



“ 19 files added to the album College



Laura Reynolds - May 18, 2022 at 11:46 AM



“ Small Garden Dish was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.



May 18, 2022 at 08:02 AM



“ We will never forget meeting twelve-year-old Sujata in Yarmouth, Maine. She was bright-eyed, vibrant, and joyful with an infectious laugh, and our little son Joel fell in love immediately. Over the years we've followed her journey through life as she married the amazing Rob and together they devotedly raised their two daughters. We have marveled at the way she managed the often terrible effects of her serious illness.

Truly, her life was a triumph.

Ann Philips and Ken Shapiro

Ann Philips - May 17, 2022 at 07:25 PM

SR

Our sympathy to Pat, Chris, Alex and Adam. We've lost touch over the years but I'll always remember meeting Sujata soon after her arrival from India. She was beautiful and absolutely radiant, unforgettable. We are so very sorry for your loss.

Susan and Charlie Roscoe - May 22, 2022 at 09:06 AM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 17, 2022 at 07:01 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 17, 2022 at 02:28 PM



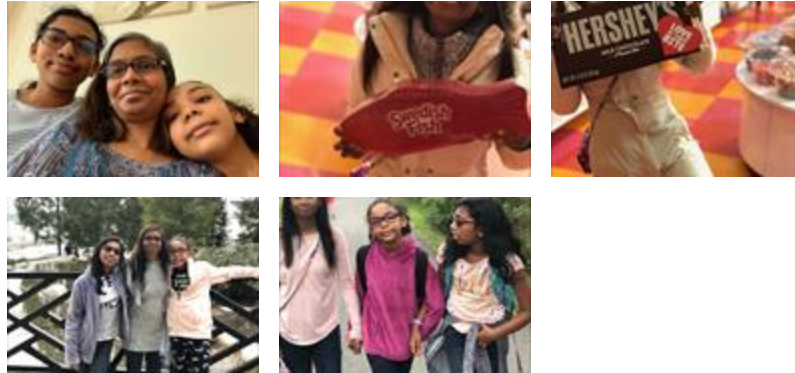
“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 17, 2022 at 12:39 PM

RO

“ 112 files added to the album *Sujata Family Memories*



robone1980 - May 17, 2022 at 11:19 AM



“ *Sweet Tenderness* was purchased for the family of *Sujata Rose Roy*.



May 16, 2022 at 07:04 PM

MS

“ To: Rob, Anaiah, Jasmine, and the rest of Sujata's family:

I want to express my deepest sympathy to all of you during these difficult times you are going through. I want you to know that you remain very close in my heart and prayers.

I feel so privileged to have known Sujata for quite a few years now and I give thanks to God for her. There was this special light that shone through her even during the tough times she had to go through due to her sickle cell disease. Her love for God and her love for you Rob, Anaiah and Jasmine were always evident and unquestionable. You were her life and her reason to keep fighting. She always spoke so proudly of her girls (Anaiah and Jasmine).

Sometimes she would write to me in a text opening her heart to talk about God and her faith, and I would marvel at the intensity of her love and faith in God! She truly spoke as one who has grown in an intimate relationship with our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. For me, she gave a very strong example of what it is to carry our crosses and faithfully follow the Lord. That left such a deep impression in my heart and that's why I believe, too, that she was truly a "Miracle". I hope we all learn from her example of always keeping hope alive in the midst of any trial, a hope that she expressed through joy and love of life, even in the midst of her health condition.

Even though now you suffer the loss of her physical presence, know that love is always stronger than death and from her place in Heaven she watches over you, prays for all of you and remains very close. I'm sure she would like that you all keep that in mind and continue her legacy of a strong faith in God and hope expressed in joy. If you live by the example she left us, she would have accomplished her mission in life. May God be praised and thanked for all the blessings and graces he granted Sujata and to all of us through her!

May God's blessings, peace and strength be with all of you and may

God grant eternal rest to her soul and eternal peace in His presence. Amen.

With love and gratitude to you, my dear friend, "Su", Rest in Peace!

Millie Soto

PS. I want to let you know that I got sick with a very bad cold and I will not be able to attend the funeral Mass, but I will be there in spirit.

Millie Soto - May 16, 2022 at 06:37 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 16, 2022 at 11:14 AM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 16, 2022 at 11:14 AM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.

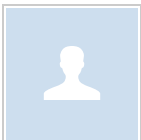


May 16, 2022 at 11:10 AM



“ The most beautiful thing I can share about Mrs.Roy is the great gift she left to the world: her two amazing daughters, Anaiah and Jasmine. If ever her love shined brighter, it has been through how she and her husband have successfully raised their two very caring, very loving daughters throughout their journey with chronic illness. Because of her love for them, which we know breaks down into a million tiny moments of care and dedication, her two daughters shall continue to grow into fantastic leaders... in her honor. Jenna Conner-Harris and Susan Guidry, teachers at LRMS

Jenna CONNER-HARRIS - May 16, 2022 at 08:51 AM



“ Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.



May 15, 2022 at 08:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 15, 2022 at 02:54 PM



“ *Laura, Nathan, Thuc, and Konstantin. purchased the Serenity Wreath for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



Laura, Nathan, Thuc, and Konstantin. - May 14, 2022 at 12:34 PM



“ *I have so many memories, it would be hard to write them all down or even choose a favorite. Above all, I remember her joie de vivre. She had so many challenges in life but always remained a bright light.*



Laura Reynolds - May 14, 2022 at 11:39 AM



I found a copy of this same exact picture earlier today 😇👉

Rob - May 14, 2022 at 04:31 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 14, 2022 at 10:24 AM



“ *So sorry to hear of your loss. I was so blessed to have Sujata in our home for bible study and more. Lost contact with her over the years. She will always be close to my heart. Prayers are with Rob and your beautiful girls.*

gerrienne hoffman - May 14, 2022 at 09:40 AM



“ *Magnificent Life Spray was purchased for the family of Sujata Rose Roy.*



May 14, 2022 at 08:13 AM

RO

“To appoint unto them that mourn in Zion, to give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; that they might be called trees of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he might be glorified.” ~ Isaiah 61:3

"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." ~ Romans 8:28

For 20 years my best friend, for 13 years my wife and the mother of my children, and forever my Miracle and my eternal sister in Christ. Sujata you were all of these and more to me. I can only Thank God for allowing us to be with you for as long as he did. Your indescribable beauty and joy masked a life of physical suffering brought on by Sickle Cell Disease. You endured pain that none should ever know and reminded us that Christ bore that burden with you and used it to touch so many with His love and message in the process.

Our daughters will miss their "mama", but they will carry the light of faith, strength, hope, and love that you lit within them for the rest of their lives.

143 Miracle (Sujata)

~ Sweetheart (Robert Roy, Jr.)

robone1980 - May 13, 2022 at 07:09 PM



I first got to know Sujata when we were quite young and I remember her wonderful spirit. One memory: I was about 12 years old and I was nervous going to summer camp at the YMCA. I knew my good friend Adam and his younger sister Sujata would be there, but I was coming late and was feeling pretty lonely. I remember that when I arrived Sujata was literally one of the first people I saw getting out of the car and it became immediately clear that she was thriving - so well loved by everyone around her and totally at home in her surroundings. And even though I was older than her by a few years, she immediately made me feel at home and accepted, greeting me with a huge smile and showing me around. I've never forgotten that moment and the beautiful kindness she showed me.

Chris Van Voorst - May 19, 2022 at 12:52 PM

AS

When Sujata arrived in our Yarmouth neighborhood, my daughters gained an instant friend over the back fence. She went from shy to giggly, mischievous, part of the gang in a flash. Sujata was a ray of sunshine.

Ann Swardlick - May 21, 2022 at 10:36 AM

NE

First, my heartfelt condolences to Pat, Chris, Sujata's husband, and her two daughters.

My memory of Sujata: In March of 1983 I had the honor and privilege, along with Mary Ellen Milner-Rollins, to travel to Bombay (now Mumbai) India to meet and escort home two precious girls - Sujata (4) and Monica (6 months).

After 9 days filled with paperwork, meetings, and adventures in the mystical city of Bombay, the four of us boarded an Air India flight to the United States to unite Sujata and Monica with their "forever families" in Maine.

I remember Sujata as a brave, wide-eyed, beautiful four-year-old. I was not surprised to read that her passion was to model and lead others in the pursuit of peace, tolerance, and the acceptance of diversity.

As time passed and life happened, our families lost touch with one another. Ironically, our daughter, Monica, now lives in Yarmouth (where Sujata grew up) with her husband and two daughters - Pearl Sujata(14) and Priya Rose (7). Coincidentally, Sujata and Monica attended the same YMCA summer camp in the late 1980s!

Again, I am so sorry for your loss and I wish you peace.

*Nancy Ezhava
Windham, Maine*

Nancy Ezhaya - May 27, 2022 at 10:27 PM