



August 15, 1921 - January 17, 2021

Marie-Pauline Richard née Boudreaux (Polly) passed away peacefully at her home surrounded by loved ones. She leaves in grief, her devoted son, Zachary, grand-daughter Sarah Lattès of Paris, France, great grand-son Émile Cullin, nephews Ned, Francis and Jim Boudreaux and many close friends and family. She was preceded by her husband of 58 years, Eddie Joseph Richard, her parents André and Julie Martin Boudreaux, brothers Emick, Eddie (Badé), Edvard, Charles and Claude Cinquième.

POLLY

Your weary green eyes closed for the final time.

Passing the portal into the endless night

Your light to shine in the constellation

Of the ones you have loved

And who have gone before,

Your path marked by the truth that you have known:

The faith that you embraced

Like the blanket that kept you warm

Swathed like the child that you had become.

The hope that was shining in your ready smile,

The relentless belief that good things would come

And that your suffering would be relieved,

As you had relieved the suffering of

Those close to you.

And the kindness that shone brightly  
In your smile as graceful and lovely  
As it had been in the days when you were young  
And in love with the man with whom you  
Would share your life.

Wife, mother, daughter, caring for those  
Close without question or pause  
The cause of your devotion in your bones  
And blood and sinew renewing  
With each passing day  
Always ready to give.  
Living in the certitude that  
You drew from your God  
And the community that  
Loved you

The souvenirs piled like  
Leaves fallen in the autumn breeze.  
Washing your mother's hair  
When she could no longer.  
Its dark strands cascading  
To the floor, combed and

Pulled into their tresses and  
Wound like crown around  
Her frail head.

The endless vigil at your father's bed.  
Constant in his long agony, And sitting alone  
During the dark hours  
When the man with whom  
You spent 58 years  
Was taken from you  
In the fast fury of cancer's brutal storm.

The picture of you two,  
Young lovers, holding each other close  
In a summer's embrace  
The grace of your love  
Shining like the sun.

And the stories of your  
Young days. Captain of the team,  
Your lithe body full of the  
Vigor of your dreams,  
Your graduation in high heels  
Hat and gloves, elegant and worldly  
Beyond your days.

And younger still  
Roller skating all the way to Lafayette  
On highway 90 before there were cars  
And younger still,  
Climbing the roof  
With your two friends  
And pulling up your skirts  
Peeing to see whose stream  
Would flow the fastest  
And be first to reach the ground.

In that old house where  
You spent most of your days  
Laughter's echo and the remains  
Of the good times  
Crusted on the walls like  
The smoke from the old stove  
At which your mother would  
Make supper for you, the baby  
And her rambunctious five boys,  
And the wire of a man she loved.  
The joy sustaining you  
Through the hard times.

The war. You were just 19 when

The man your loved went off,  
He but a boy.  
The scars of that time worn smooth  
In the happiness that swept  
You up like a lunar tide riding  
The happiness of his return.

Much has been said of the  
Heroes like him  
Who gave themselves to the struggle,  
But what of their wives  
And loved ones  
Who stayed by the hearth side  
And who prayed  
Making the long years rhyme  
With their love.

And when it was done  
Starting life anew, building  
With confidence and reason  
Plumbed by the sacrifice shared.  
A little house and a child  
Your tender caress and charming smile  
Making sure that your man  
Understood that there was more

To life than work. Creating joy

Generously and with care.

Your friends, your town,

The cub scouts that you welcomed

And the ladies that you knew,

The crew of small town women dynamos

Who shared their lives and

The stories of their moody men

And troublesome children

And who drank coffee and played cards.

Gathered around the dining room table

Like a hive of buzzing bees delighting

In the mischievous conversation and

On the food you had prepared.

Planning for days to make

Everything just so, filling each

Cup with the syrup of your black coffee

Seasoned with the milk of your kindness

Sweetened by your laughter and charm.

Your holy trinity of the three Cs:

Cards, Coffee and the Cat.

Later with you in treasured memory

Sitting at your kitchen table  
Playing with cards as big as the phone book  
Squinting to see what fate and chance  
Had provided. Your sight dimmed  
But your spirit untamed  
Your irreverent and  
Deliciously mocking humor  
Never out of reach  
Using it like a stirring spoon to  
Cook the roux that would become  
The gumbo of your life.

Lâche pas la patate, Même si elle est chaude.  
You would say to me. You have left a hole  
In the shape of all of the love you gave,  
Your tender gaze and pleasant disposition  
A gift to all who had the fortune to know you.  
The flowers faded on the mantle of  
The life that you have lived  
Leaving behind a souvenir of glorious color  
And the sweet smell that will never fade.  
I will miss you every minute of every day  
And Love you until the end of time.

Funeral services will be held on Friday, January 22, 2021 at 11:00 AM in Sts. Peter & Paul Catholic Church in Scott.

Entombment will be in the Sts. Peter & Paul Mausoleum.

The Most Reverend Michael Jarrell, Bishop Emeritus, will be the Celebrant of the Funeral Mass and will conduct the services.

Pallbearers will be Thomas Delhomme, Rodney Savoy, Dudley Fruge, John Prados, Pat McCarthy and Tom Wicker.

Honorary Pallbearers will be Francis Boudreaux and James Boudreaux.

Memorial contributions can be made in Polly's name to the Acadiana Animal Aid, [www.acadianaanimalaid.org](http://www.acadianaanimalaid.org).

A heartfelt appreciation is extended by the Richard family for the love and care given Miss Polly to Melissa Bonin, Alice Noel, Geraldine Sonnier, Christine Ibrahim, Christina Ruth, Joe Cain, Jackie Stoute, Deborah Domengeaux, Mary LeBlanc, Regina Rainwater and Clydene Payne.

View the obituary and guestbook online at [www.mourning.com](http://www.mourning.com)