



## Mary Cummings de Wet

April 1, 1970 - July 28, 2025

Mary Cummings de Wet, age 55, passed away on the 28th of July, 2025. Mary was a newspaper editor for most of her life, and she wasn't about to trust the writing of her obituary to anyone else.

Mary Elizabeth Cummings was born April 1, 1970, to Tim and Anne Cummings at Women's Hospital in Baton Rouge, LA. The site has since been turned into a police facility, a move for which she takes no responsibility whatsoever. She was a nerdy little kid who grew up on North Holly Street and attended St. Thomas More Catholic School and Baton Rouge Magnet High School. She was a Girl Scout and a wrangler who was afraid of horses. In the summers, she worked at Camp Marydale as a counselor called Biskitt. During her senior year in high school, she was diagnosed with Ewing's sarcoma. She got over it with the help of doctors at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Fla. She attended Louisiana State University from 1988 to 1992, working at the Daily Reveille and earning a bachelor's degree in journalism. While in college, she interned for United Press International, the Dow Jones News Fund, USA Today, the Advocate and the Baton Rouge Business Report. She also attended LSU in Paris in the summer 1992 and met her future husband, Chris de Wet, while backpacking in London.

After college she worked as a copy editor at the Odessa American and the Wyoming Tribune-Eagle. She married Chris in Cheyenne, WY on April 27, 1996. Mary, who had been told the cancer treatment had removed any chance of pregnancy, started to get fat in March 1997 and discovered she was five

months' pregnant with their son, Kale.

In 2000, Mary decided she was ready for a new challenge and applied to Dow Jones & Co. She accepted a job as a copy editor for Dow Jones Newswires in Singapore and then went to the library to look up where Singapore is. Chris, Mary and Kale moved to Singapore and lived there for seven years. Daughter Mika was born there in 2001. Mary enjoyed living in Singapore. "It was the most beautiful, well-run nation on earth," she said. In 2007, Mary applied for a transfer to the U.S. through Dow Jones. Daughter Rowan was born in Princeton, N.J., that year. Mary worked for The Wall Street Journal and Dow Jones Newswires, eventually becoming deputy global chief of the financial wire. In 2019, she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Her awesome team of doctors got her through that. At the time she said, "I'm not afraid of the cancer; the cancer should be afraid of me!"

She enjoyed puns, her favorite being "Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana." She also enjoyed daydreaming, reading and designing houses on paper. She liked and loved her family.

She was diagnosed with acute leukemia and cancer in July 2025. The cancer didn't beat Mary who, quoting Tim Schrandt, said that when she died, the cancer did too, "so technically it was a tie!"

She is survived by her husband, Chris; her son, Kale; her daughters, Mika and Rowan; her father Timothy Cummings; her sisters Margaret Leming, Catherine Herman and Claire Delaune; and her nephews Michael and Timothy Leming and Nate and Reese Delaune.

The Funeral Mass will be on Friday, August 1, 2025 9:00 AM at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church (Christ The Redeemer Parish) 98 South 2nd Ave., Manville, NJ 08835. Arrangements are under the direction of the Ketusky Funeral Home in Manville, NJ.

# Previous Events

## Mass

AUG 1. 9:00 AM (ET)

Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church  
98 South Second Ave.  
Manville, NJ 08835

# Tribute Wall

WS

“ WSJ & Dow Jones Newswires Staff purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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WSJ & Dow Jones Newswires Staff - August 08, 2025 at 06:21 AM

WS

“ WSJ & Dow Jones Newswires Staff planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Cummings de Wet.

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WSJ & Dow Jones Newswires Staff - August 08, 2025 at 06:21 AM

GS

“ I had the pleasure of working with her at Dow Jones in Singapore about 2 decades ago. We used to share "notes" on what were the best buys at NTUC Fairprice supermarket! She was a dedicated copy editor, but more than that she was devoted to her husband and children.

When one passes away, people say only good things, as if everyone becomes a saint when one dies. But in Mary's case, I will unreservedly say that she was a good person. That's a fact, in life and in death!

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Gesan Suppayan, Singapore - August 01, 2025 at 07:22 PM

HJ

“ To Mary's family,  
I am sorry for your loss and offer my deepest condolences. Mary and I were colleagues in Singapore during the time she was here. I recall her as a serious, hardworking and a dedicated journalist. And someone who was serious by nature with sharp wit and sense of humor. May she Rest in Peace.  
Hasan Jafri

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**Hasan Jafri** - August 01, 2025 at 03:27 AM

KL

“ I'm so sorry for your loss.  
I was Mary's colleague in Singapore. We lost touch after Mary returned to the US except via LinkedIn, but I'll always remember her as a serious, hardworking journalist who was fun to work with.

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**Kevin Lim** - August 01, 2025 at 02:53 AM

RB

“ de Wet and Cummings families -- I'm so deeply sorry for your loss. I worked closely with Mary at Dow Jones and eventually directly reported to her for about a year. Polite corporate culture has taught us to tell people facing hard times that they are in our thoughts. Occasionally, it is thoughts and prayers. But not Mary. Perhaps it was the writer in her who loved an active verb, but when my family faced adversity Mary said, "I'm praying for your family." I remember it distinctly and that's how I'll remember her.

Her last text to me? "Padre Pio says pray, hope and don't worry." I'll try, Mary. And I'll pray for your family. Rest easy, my friend.

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**Robert Barba** - July 31, 2025 at 10:53 PM

RB

*Mary was a great colleague and spirit who was missed when she returned to the U S. Condolences on this big loss.*

Richard Borsuk - August 01, 2025 at 06:13 AM

RA

*I am so sorry.  
Mary occasionally edited my stories for American Banker.  
I will be praying for her family.*

Robin Arnfield - August 04, 2025 at 09:02 AM

PN

*“ Mary, you will be missed. I can hear your voice so clearly in the obituary.  
Mary was a tough editor yet a kind person. She plied the team with cupcakes and treats and her ready wit when things got tough. She was always willing to roll up her sleeves and work at all odd hours. Her dedication, grit and spirit will surely live on through her family.  
God speed!*

Prabha Natarajan - July 31, 2025 at 10:46 PM

MV

*“ Mary and I worked together at Dow Jones in Singapore, New Jersey and NYC, and I'll always remember her sharp sense of humor and how she never complained about anything despite sometimes less than ideal conditions. I truly admired her positive attitude, which she obviously never lost. I'll miss sharing funny stories and memories with her. My thoughts are with her family.*

Melanie Viola - July 31, 2025 at 08:53 PM

MM

“ So sad to hear this news. Mary was a level-headed, dedicated colleague, a rock in a sometimes turbulent newsroom, always on it and a reassuring presence around the room. My deepest condolences to all her loved ones.

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**Matt Murray** - July 31, 2025 at 07:14 PM

BB

“ Mary was a lovely colleague at the Wall Street Journal and a true team player. I sat near her and loved hearing about her Louisiana past and rodeo experiences. She was a complete professional with a sneaky, dry sense of humor. She will be missed. My condolences to her loved ones.

-Beth Blackshire

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**Beth Blackshire** - July 31, 2025 at 05:13 PM

HC

“ This news is absolutely heartbreaking. Mary and I spent many a long night together with the crew affectionately known as "night-hub." She was a stickler for the rules-- which explains why she was such a sharp editor-- but she was also a total softy. She was so encouraging as I started my journey as a mom and always made sure to check on me in those early months to make sure I was doing ok. She spoke with great pride about her children and her husband and I know that her tenacity and courage lives on through them. Deeply appreciate her self-written obituary which I view as just another handover note. Don't worry Mary, we've got the EOS notes from here. --30--

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**Hillary Canada** - July 31, 2025 at 05:04 PM

JD

“ *Jill & Dave purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.*



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**Jill & Dave** - July 31, 2025 at 03:54 PM

 Julie Wernau

“ *There's so much of Mary's voice in this obituary. Mary was one of my first editors at the Wall Street Journal and was kind, patient and a total pro while I tried to wrap my mind around the world of commodities, futures and options and crop forecasts in Brazil and West Africa. I loved hearing her stories from her time in Singapore and catching up over coffee as our careers took on new directions. There was no one else like her.*

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**Julie Wernau** - July 31, 2025 at 01:40 PM

LB

“ *Sending deepest condolences to Mary's family. She was a respected editor and colleague -- one of those professionals who is great at teaching and training. We will miss her--she spoke with love about her children and family on many occasions. Best wishes, Laura Bird*

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**Laura Bird** - July 31, 2025 at 01:12 PM

AE

“ *Arizent's Women's ERG purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.*



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**Arizent's Women's ERG** - July 31, 2025 at 12:09 PM

KE

“ Karen Gravois Elliott purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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**Karen Gravois Elliott** - July 31, 2025 at 11:18 AM

KE

“ Karen Gravois Elliott planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Mary Cummings de Wet.

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**Karen Gravois Elliott** - July 31, 2025 at 11:18 AM



“ Strength & Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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July 31, 2025 at 09:45 AM

WA

“ With Deepest Sympathy~ Arizent purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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**With Deepest Sympathy~ Arizent** - July 31, 2025 at 09:26 AM

LN

“ Lisbeth Nilsson purchased the Beautiful Dreams for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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Lisbeth Nilsson - July 31, 2025 at 04:05 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Cummings de Wet.

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July 31, 2025 at 12:45 AM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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July 30, 2025 at 10:22 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Cummings de Wet.

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July 30, 2025 at 10:22 PM

SD

“ I met Mary working the election polls. Her children worked with me also. She had the best family. Worked with them all. Very polite, smart and very responsible. I still can't believe she left us so soon. I will miss all our time we spent together. Rest in peace!! Sue daniels

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sue daniels - July 30, 2025 at 09:48 PM

MK

“ I am so saddened by this. Mary and I were "collection counting" partners at our parish. She was smart, funny, and a woman of faith. My prayers are with her wonderful family.

Marianne K

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**Marianne R Kenton** - July 30, 2025 at 05:13 PM



“ Basket of Memories was purchased for the family of Mary Cummings de Wet.



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July 30, 2025 at 11:15 AM

AM

“ Sincere condolences on the loss of your mother. May her memory be a blessing and her life remembered with love, dignity, and deep respect by all who knew her. Our thoughts are with you during this difficult time. ~The Moss Family

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**Amanda Moss** - July 30, 2025 at 09:56 AM