



Cheryl (Somers) Monachino was born and raised in Endicott. She graduated from Catholic Central High School in 1977 and went on to receive her BS in Mathematics, with a minor in Philosophy, at LeMoyne College in 1981. It was at LeMoyne where she met her husband, Sandy, and they married shortly after college in 1984. They had three children, Patrick, Angela, and Elizabeth.

Cheryl was a trailblazing female engineer. She quickly ascended to a managerial role while working at Lockheed Martin. Her work ethic was second to none, and she served as a mentor to many young professionals. After retiring from Lockheed Martin, she went on to serve as the Director of Industrial Outreach at the Watson School of Engineering at Binghamton University, where she received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service. The award tribute to her aptly stated: "whatever Cheryl touches, she improves." Indeed, those who knew Cheryl would describe her as driven, practical, humble, and selfless.

Despite her busy professional schedule, she always made her family her first priority. Her family fondly remembers her as the "beast" because of her ability to do everything, from fixing a leaky faucet to cooking a family Christmas dinner. While she went by many names, her favorite was "Nana" to her grandchildren.

The importance of serving her community was instilled in Cheryl at a young age. Her grandfather built many houses in Endicott, while her father also served as a member of the Broome County Legislature. Her mother, who passed away from lung cancer when Cheryl was only 14, was also a member of the American Cancer Society Board of Directors. Cheryl gave back to the community in many ways, including being an active parishioner at Blessed Sacrament and Church of the Holy Family and serving on the LeMoyne College Alumni Association Board. Cheryl also served as a member of the American Cancer Society Board, where she organized their first gala held in Broome County and was an integral part of their local fundraising efforts for several years. Her work in the community was posthumously recognized by LeMoyne College. She received the LeMoyne College Alumni Community Service Award in 2021.

In addition, Cheryl was a founding member of the Mercy House Board and was committed to making the vision of Mercy House come to life. At the time of her passing, Cheryl was President of the Mercy House Board.

Cheryl was diagnosed with terminal cancer at the young age of 59. She spent her last days at peace at Mercy House. Cheryl felt a deep gratitude to all of the staff and volunteers at Mercy House. Continuing her legacy in honor of Mercy House is a humbling privilege for her family.