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Carol Campbell Hershman 1957 - 2006

Tribune ad veteran devoted life to family

January 22, 2006 | By Joan Giangrasse Kates, Special to the Tribune.

After working at the Chicago Tribune for nearly 15 years, Carol "Carrie" Campbell Hershman left a career in advertising to begin raising a family and become a full-time homemaker.

It was a role she excelled at and cherished, those closest to her said.

"Carrie could have done anything she wanted professionally, but I don't think she ever regretted her decision to stay home, not for one minute," said Kathy Waltz, a longtime friend and former Tribune advertising manager. "The wonderful thing is that although she may have left the Tribune, she was never willing to give up the many friendships she made there."

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Mrs. Hershman, 48, of Hinsdale, a former supervisor in classified advertising for the Tribune, died of breast cancer Wednesday, Jan. 18, in her home.

Born in Chicago, Mrs. Hershman grew up in Western Springs and was a graduate of Lyons Township High School. She received a bachelor's degree in education from Purdue University in 1979. Mrs. Hershman began her career at the Tribune in 1973 as a part-time ad clipper in the advertising department. After graduating from college, she began working full time as an ad taker and served in various positions in advertising before her promotion to recruitment supervisor of classified advertising in the early 1980s. She retired in 1987, just before the birth of her first child, son Alex.

"Carrie loved children, and she helped raise two of the most wonderful kids you can imagine," said Lisa Hughes, a longtime friend and special projects coordinator at the Tribune.

Former colleagues described Mrs. Hershman as "warm, caring and graceful," words they repeated over and over while recalling special memories of her both in and outside the office.

"She always knew what she wanted," said Dave Williams, a former colleague and chief executive officer of Tribune Media Services. "She was very determined, and while she enjoyed her years at the paper, she truly wanted a family and so put everything she had into it."

As a full-time homemaker, Mrs. Hershman was active in her children's lives, volunteering regularly at their schools and with sports activities. She also served as secretary of the parent-teacher organization at the Lane School in Hinsdale.

A talented cook and gardener, Mrs. Hershman was happiest when with her children, those closest to her said.

"Even after being diagnosed with cancer, her life was never, ever about her illness," close friend and neighbor Beth Usher said. "She never tired of making each day special for her children, as well as those of others."

Other survivors include her husband, Graham; a daughter, Rebecca; her father, Harry Harlow; and a sister, Lucy Harlow.

A memorial visitation will be held at 9:30 a.m. Saturday with services following at 10:30 a.m. at Evangelical

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Covenant Church of Hinsdale, 30 E. 4th St..

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