

**In Memoriam**  
**Mary Blumberg Lehman, CW'68**  
*Leslie Maddin Bayer, CW'68*



Our classmate and friend Mary Blumberg Lehman sadly died in April 2002, after a short but heroic battle with cancer. Mary, CW'68, grew up in Dothan, Alabama. Following her graduation from Penn in 1968, Mary attended Columbia Law School and went on to have a successful career as an attorney and private banker. Her career included being a director of BBR Partners, an investment-management company for high net worth clients, President and Chief Investment Officer of EnvestNet Advisory Services, President of the private client group at Global Asset Management, head of the Domestic Private Bank at Bankers Trust, as well as holding positions at a number of private banking groups and law firms.

Mary thoroughly enjoyed both her time at Penn and the fantastic network of friends and professionals of all ages that she met through Penn affiliations. Mary was a founding member of the Trustees' Council of Penn Women, served on the Board of Overseers of the School of Veterinary Medicine, and was the gift co-chair for her class for over 20 years. She also supported Penn in less visible ways, by mentoring students and alumni and by attending numerous Penn Crew races.

Her children, both of whom graduated from Penn; Michael Lehman from Wharton in the Class of 93, and Katherine Lehman, also from Wharton in the Class of 97, as did her first husband, Jack H. Lehman, III, our classmate. After Mary's death, Michael and Katherine established the Mary Blumberg Lehman Memorial Endowed Scholarship Fund.

In announcing the gift her children said:

“Mary felt that Penn's combination of outstanding academics, high caliber students, strong athletics, diverse social atmosphere and beautiful urban setting should be shared by as many qualified people as possible. She would be pleased to help future students through this scholarship to attend Penn and enjoy all it has to offer.”

Several years after Mary's death, Katherine asked that I write down my memories of Mary, in order that her son, Mary's grandson, could learn about the grandmother he sadly never knew. I have included some of my remarks here.

"Mary was smart, very smart - actually much smarter than most of her peers. She was also very pretty and she had a great smile and a fabulous sense of humor. With her wit, charm and of course her southern drawl, she was always the center of the universe. Whatever circle she was in, Mary presided. Mary loved having fun and mostly she was the reason we were having fun.

I saw Mary a few times after she received the cancer diagnosis. I was not surprised to see how hard she was fighting the cancer, without complaining. But I was surprised to see that she wasn't afraid, or at least didn't show it. I know she took great comfort from you, Katherine and your brother Michaels' care and devotion. I think that is what gave her the strength while she went through chemo. Indeed on her death bed she told me that at the end the only things that matter are family, friends and dogs. Mary was also devoted to her two standard poodles.

If you want William to know your mother better, he needs only to look at you Katherine. You look just like Mary and from what I know of you, you also have Mary's drive and intelligence. I am sure if she could tell us her biggest regrets dying so young; it would be that her friendship with her adult children was cut short and never seeing William grow up. I know she would have been proud of all of you."