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Catherine Oberle, 72, Kindergarten 'Teddy Bear Teacher', 34 Years at Tokeneke School

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Date : July 29, 2017

Catherine “Cathy” Oberle, 72, of Rowayton died at her longtime home on Friday, July 28 after a long illness.

A resident of Rowayton since 1967, Cathy was born on Nov. 4, 1944 in Babylon, N.Y. She attended The Academy of Our Lady of Good Counsel High School and graduated from Western Connecticut State University.

Cathy was a kindergarten teacher at Tokeneke School in Darien for 34 years. She taught more than 1,000 students and had multiple generations of her pupils.

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Known as the “Teddy Bear Teacher” for her collection of teddy bears, Cathy was beloved for her sweet nature and positive outlook.

She was active in St. John Church, the Darien Senior Center and other community groups.

She is survived by her first cousins, Lawrence Kuhn of Long Island, the Rev. Richard Kuhn and Maryann Carl.

— [an obituary](#) from *Edward Lawrence Funeral Home*

The family will receive friends from 3 to 6 p.m., Sunday, July 30, 2017 at the Edward Lawrence Funeral Home, 2119 Post Road, Darien. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 a.m., Monday, July 31, at St. John Roman Catholic Church, 1986 Post Road, Darien. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. John Church (06820), or the Rowayton Community Center, 33 Highland Ave., Rowayton, CT 06853.