

Laurie Ann Walsh Emanuel

Laurie was born December 14, 1961 at Maine Medical Center, Portland, Maine. Laurie attended Holy Cross Elementary School, Mahoney Junior High and South Portland High School, all in South Portland, Maine where she resided as a child with her parents Ruth Scott Walsh and Michael Walsh. In elementary school, Laurie played basketball, softball and cheerleading. She decided as a third grader that she wanted to become a teacher. In sixth grade, she volunteered to help first and second grade teachers. In junior high school, she played on the tennis and basketball teams. In high school, Laurie was president of the French Club, vice president of Keyettes, a service organization, and was on the varsity tennis team. She volunteered at a local nursery school. During the summer, she worked retail as well as serving as a camp counselor.

Laurie graduated sixth out of 300 in her high school class. She attended Boston College where she majored in Education. During her college tenure, Laurie acted in several skits put on by the College of Education. She worked in the history department, performing office-related work 20 hours per week as part of a work-study program. This work helped her pay her way through college. During the summer, Laurie worked in retail and ran the summer camp program at the nursery school in South Portland.

Laurie graduated Cum Laude from Boston College in 1984. She moved back to Maine and got a part-time job teaching Kindergarten at Harrison Lyseth Elementary School in Portland. She tutored middle school students in the afternoon. She was awarded the Sallie Mae teachers award recognizing her as one of 50 of the top new teachers in the U.S. In 1985, Laurie began teaching first grade full time at Lyseth. She taught first grade for three years and second grade for six years. In 1990, she was recognized for her excellence in teaching by the Southern Maine Association for the Education of Young Children. In 1991, she received the outstanding teacher's award from the Superintendent of the Portland Schools. In 1993, she was asked to make a presentation on literature-based reading to the National Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development in Washington D.C. She ran many curriculum development workshops in Portland.

Laurie's stellar academic career was derailed by her marriage to Geoffrey S. Emanuel on July 4, 1994 in Portland. Geoff and Laurie met on the tennis court in Portland in 1987. They went on their first date on May 19, 1989. After a long courtship and accompanying due diligence period, Geoff proposed marriage to Laurie on Christmas Day, 1993. Laurie and Geoff moved to Simsbury, Connecticut immediately after their marriage. Andrew Michael Emanuel was born to the couple on March 14, 1996 in Hartford, Connecticut. Laurie and Geoff moved to Falmouth, Maine in May, 1998. William James Emanuel was born on March 15, 2000 in Portland. Laurie served on the Board of Directors of Art Play Preschool, which Andrew attended for two years and where William is expected to attend. Laurie currently volunteers each week in Andrew's classes at Lunt Elementary School in Falmouth, Maine

Laurie is a full time mother, homemaker and sailing widow to her incorrigible husband who disappears for most of the summer. She is active on the tennis court terrorizing other mothers in Falmouth with her powerful game.

- Geoffrey Emanuel, December, 2003



on wedding day, July, 1994

with Geoff, Will and Andy, 2000