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Wishes launched for memorial scholarship

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MEREDITH — Hundreds of glowing lanterns gathered in the air as a crowd of friends and family gathered in honor of a local woman.

On Saturday, over a hundred people gathered at Moulton Farm for the second annual Launch-A-Wish benefit to raise money for the Diane K. Kline Scholarship Fund.

Diane Kamercia Kline, a longtime resident of Center Harbor who worked in education for 33 years. Diane Kline graduated from Belknap College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education in 1973 and receiving a Masters of Education from Plymouth State College in 1997. Diane then taught school in Gilford, Laconia, and Plymouth. Her educational work also lead her to teach in the Eskimo village of Ekwok, Alaska. She also co-founded and co-directed the Cotton-Tail College Preschool in Center Harbor.

She was also a member of the Center Harbor Planning Board and was elected the town's first female selectman.

She died on July 13, 2010 af-



PHOTO BY ERIN PLUMMER

Sarah Kline and Laura Case launch a wish lantern

ter battling cancer.

The first Launch-A-Wish event took place at Moulton Farm the second weekend of January 2011. Diane's Husband Duke Kline joined their children Derek and Kanae with

family, friends, and supporters gathered to light the floating lanterns and release them in the air with a wish.

On Saturday, people returned to Moulton Farm on a chilly day to take part for an-

other year.

"It's going to be an annual event as long as John Moulton is willing to host it," Duke Kline said.

Duke Kline said the event

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Thanks for making Launch-A-Wish a success

To the Editor:

The Launch-A-Wish event to benefit the Diane K. Kline Memorial Scholarship Fund was a huge success and exceeded our expectations. More than 100 wish lanterns

were launched at the event and \$5,000 in donations collected. We are so pleased by the support given by friends and the community. A big thank you goes out to all who helped make this fundraiser

successful. There were so many who gave their time and special effort to this fundraising project. We would like to extend a special thanks to E.M. Heath, Inc., Aubuchon Hardware in Moultonboro,

Meredith Village Savings Bank, Event Builders of Moultonboro, Moulton Farm, Caroline Nesbitt, and Gayle Wyckoff.

Duke, Derek and Danae Kline

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will always take place that second weekend of January and Moulton has said he will stay on board with the event for as long as possible.

Friends, family, and supporters packed the store at Moulton Farm before the event.

Attendees received the wish lanterns with a \$25 suggested donation to the fund. Many wrote wishes and many also wrote messages of love for Diane.

Around 4:30 p.m. the crowd gathered in the cornfield in the back of the store, a change in field location from last year due to winds. Volunteers helped light the lanterns and people held them up and let them fly into the sky. In just a few minutes hundreds of colorful lanterns floated into the air above Moulton Farm.

"I think it's terrific, it's a great tribute for my wife Diane and it brings people together," Kline said.

Kline said the event is "an uplifting thing" that is great for the community.

Duke Kline's brother Bob

Kline joined his wife Sarah Kline with the crowd of supporters.

Sarah Kline said the event is "very special" for her.

"We spent a lot of time with Diane here," Sarah Kline said.

Bob Kline said he has known Diane since 1973 and said this is a special event for him. He said this is a he carries Diane's memory with him.

"I always have her in the back

(of my mind) and she's right in front again," Bob Kline said.

He knows what she would be saying about the whole event.

"She's watching right now," he said.

Proceeds from the event will go toward the Diane K. Kline Memorial Scholarship Fund.

"The mission of the Diane K. Kline Memorial Scholarship Fund is to support students within school districts SAU 2

and SAU 45 so that they may educate and better themselves in order to build a stronger community," said the fund's website.

The organization is now a recognized nonprofit organization.

For more information on the Diane K. Kline Memorial Scholarship Fund, including making donations and applying, visit www.dkkmsf.org.



PHOTO BY ERIN PLUMMER

Supporters gather at Moulton Farm on Saturday to launch wish lanterns in memory of Diane Kline and in benefit of the scholarship formed in her name.