



Amy McCarty

January 10, 1969 - January 11, 2026

Amy Elizabeth McCarty, 57, passed away Sunday, January 11, 2026, at her home in Chicago, Illinois, with her family by her side.

Amy was a bright light to all who knew her, with an infectious laugh, fun and adventurous spirit, and compassionate and open heart. She was a person who showed up for her people, making those around her feel special, supported, and loved wholeheartedly.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Amy attended college at the University of Michigan and law school at The John Marshall Law School in Chicago. Amy was proud to be an attorney, devoting her legal practice to helping children and people with disabilities who found themselves at the center of difficult, often heartbreaking, circumstances. She began her career as an assistant public guardian, where she served as a guardian ad litem for abused, neglected, and dependent minors and as a representative of the estates of adults with disabilities. She later became a partner at Monahan Law Group, where she successfully litigated hundreds of cases on behalf of the elderly and people with disabilities in complex financial exploitation and abuse/neglect matters. Known by all on the 18th Floor of the Daley Center, Amy was a beloved member of the probate community, with her high heels and one-of-a-kind voice, a familiar presence for over twenty-five years.

Amy was a tireless advocate, continually applying her knowledge and energy to give back to her community. She served as President of the Board of Directors for Meals on Wheels, where she spearheaded projects promoting the organization's mission to eliminate hunger and isolation for Chicago's homebound seniors and people with disabilities. She served on the Board of Directors for Greenlight Family Services, which provides adoption, counseling, and legal services to thousands of families across Illinois. She also volunteered for the Misericordia Home, a longstanding Chicago institution that provides a continuum of care and support opportunities for individuals with profound disabilities. Amy was an adjunct professor at Loyola University Chicago School of Law for many years and mentored dozens of attorneys throughout her career, teaching them to practice with integrity and compassion.

While achieving so much professionally, above all, Amy was proud to be a mother to her two daughters, Amelia and Frances, whom she shared with her husband, Tim. She has given her girls, as well as all those who were fortunate to know her, the ultimate example of living life to its fullest.

Amy was the heartbeat of her family, her firm, and her friends, and she will forever be honored and remembered for all she meant to so many.

She is survived by her parents, David and Christine McCarty; siblings David McCarty, Susan Dechant, Michael (Amber Halaka) McCarty, Melina (John Bishop) McCarty Bishop, Steven (Jessica) McCarty, and Alex Grigsby McCarty; sister-in-law Elizabeth McCarty; in-laws Patricia (the late Charles) Mikesell, Anne (Jayson) Pippin, Cathy Mikesell, Sabrina Mikesell, Elizabeth (Robert) Taylor, John (Mary) Mikesell, Joseph (Mariz) Mikesell, Mary (Jamie) Cianfarani; and many beloved nieces and nephews. Recently preceded in death by George Mikesell and Charlie Mikesell.

In lieu of flowers, remembrances can be given in honor of Amy to: Meals on Wheels Chicago (mealsonwheelschicago.org), Misericordia Heart of Mercy (support.misericordia.com), Greenlight Family Services (greenlightfamilyservices.org) or a charity of your choosing.

Mass of Christian Burial, Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 2:00pm at Holy Name Cathedral, 735 N. State Street, Chicago, Illinois 60654.

Illinois Nurses Foundation's 40 Under 40 Award (<https://www.illinoisnurses.foundation/2025/08/18/inf-40-under-40-awardee-michael-solomon/>)

Five Ways to Create a Restorative Rest Rhythm (<https://www.bps.org.uk/psychologist/five-ways-create-restorative-rest-rhythm>)

Live stream the services here; <https://www.youtube.com/live/BQ5nYnYRHe4>

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-318-1305 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

Previous Events

Funeral Mass

JAN **20**. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (CT)

Holy Name Cathedral

735 N. State Street

Chicago , IL 60611

<https://holynamecathedral.org/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Inclusive Funeral Care created a Livestream the Mass of Christian Burial in memory of Amy McCarty*



Team Inclusive Funeral Care - January 16 at 02:20 PM

SH

Rest in peace beautiful Amy , your family & friends will miss you 😞💔



Shirin Hashemi - January 16 at 07:47 PM

JM

Rest in peace Amy. I just found out about your passing but i will always remember how wonderful of a person you are. You were a great attorney and friend.

Joseph Miller - January 20 at 03:10 PM

LB

“ I was struck with deep sadness when I learned today that Amy had passed away.

I had the privilege of working as Amy's legal assistant when she first joined what was then Monahan & Cohen as a new associate. She was a dynamic, passionate person with the intelligence--and then some!--to match all that energy. I remember her impeccably assembled outfits and those heels, which were the final flourish on a truly exceptional human being. She hit the ground running from day one, yes, even in heels, and her dedication to helping others with a fierce kindness and integrity was an inspiration.

Amy was also generous in ways that extended well beyond her clients. When I told her I was leaving law to pursue a career in teaching, she was very supportive. She told me exactly what I needed to hear, and that support stayed with me. I spent fifteen years teaching in a neighborhood public school, drawing on what I had learned at the firm to advocate for my students and their families as a layperson, before eventually joining ICIRR as one of its directors. Amy had a hand in that path, and I have never forgotten it.

One of my most cherished personal memories of her might sound small, but it captures her perfectly: she was poring over flatware catalogs, soliciting all of our opinions on her favorites, planning every detail of her wedding; all that even though she hadn't yet found Mr. Right. She had complete faith that she would, and you know the rest of us knew she would, too. I have no doubt that when that day came, her wedding was everything she had envisioned. beautiful, well-planned, and utterly her.

The world has lost one of the best people I had the privilege of meeting and working with.

-Laura Bailey

Laura Bailey - April 13 at 01:22 PM

ES

“ It is hard to find the right words after losing someone as special as Amy. She was more than a classmate and friend, she was a bright, steady presence whose warmth made people feel seen and valued. Even as the years passed with jobs and families moving us apart, the memories of laughter shared, moments we grew through together and the genuine kindness she carried never faded within me.

Amy had a way of bringing light wherever she went. You could feel it in her smile, in the way she listened, and in the quiet strength she brought with her where ever she went. Knowing her made my life better. Thinking of her now brings both deep sadness but even deeper gratitude for having had her presence in my life.

My heart goes out to Tim, Amelia and Frances as well as Amy's parents and siblings. I hope you will be able to feel the love surrounding you all from all of us whose lives were touched by Amy. I hope you all find moments of peace in the stories, the pictures, and the small everyday reminders of her love. Know that Amy will always live on in the people she shaped and the kindness that she poured into this world.

Eric Strom - January 21 at 02:47 PM



“ My deepest condolences to the family of Amy. My heart is broken for each one of you. I will be thinking of all of you today. Sending love & peace.

Sarah Lewis

Sarah Lewis Smith - January 20 at 12:13 PM

UJ

My name is Urakay Juett. I'm the proud grandmother of Camani and Cai Campbell. Amy became the mother of these two boys and fought a vigorous fight for their well-being. She didn't know them. She only heard of them through the voices of the court and my heart. Amy aligned her spirit with mine and fought as if these boys were her children..., I watched Amy through her pregnancies, and yes, those heels and even during this time she relentlessly fought my battles , she became a mother to two children that she did not know , her absence is heartfelt by all, but I will never forget the seeds that she planted in my life and my grandchildren's life. May we all rise up and be the vessel of strength compassion and to your family thank you Amy

Urakay Juett-Sutton - January 30 at 09:05 AM

CF

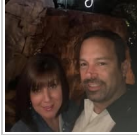
“ Rest in peace and power, Amy. What a mom you were. May your darling girls grow up in peace and love. Offering condolences to Tim, your daughters, your families and to your dear Mom, Christine.

Cynthia Farenga - January 20 at 01:08 AM



“ My deepest condolences go out to Amy's family. Amy was our #1 babysitter while she was at U of M. She was so great with our 3 kids, they all have fond memories of her. I was so impressed with how capable she was handling all 3 at the same time. She told me she got experience while growing up because her parents took in foster kids. I was in awe of that. I could see how that shaped her complete ease and ability to handle taking care of kids. She was so kind, fun & smart. We were very sad when she was graduating and moving back to Chicago but, lucky for us, her sister, Leah, was starting at U of M and filled her spot. Amy will always have a place in our hearts.

Lisa Monahan - January 19 at 02:13 PM



“ *My deepest sympathies. I had the honor of working with Amy from time to time and she was the most professional, rational, and helpful attorney I have ever met. I am so very sorry.*

Sande Shamash - January 19 at 01:33 PM



“ *Amy was one of a kind - an inspiration. a mentor and a friend. Her advocacy and contributions will have everlasting effects. To those close to her, may your memories bring peace and comfort.*

Christine Clark - January 18 at 07:31 PM



“ *My deepest condolences to Amy's family, friends, and her colleagues. I am heartbroken. I feel privileged to have worked with her for many years and relied consistently upon her expertise, advocacy and passionate commitment. I am better for knowing Amy and know she touched countless others in the same way.*

Carla Gazes - January 18 at 06:08 PM



“ *Carla Gazes lit a candle in memory of Amy McCarty*



Carla Gazes - January 18 at 06:03 PM

KB

“ My deepest condolences to the McCarty family, Tim and girls, the Mikesall family and friends. I have fond memories spending many days and nights at the McCarty house during our St. James years. We loved cooking with Mudo. Amy was a beautiful woman and her legacy will live on through all the lives she touched. 🙏💜

Kaye Koelker Baumgardner - January 18 at 04:27 PM

KG

“ My condolences to Amy's children, husband and family. If she was even half as generous and fierce in private as she was in practice, they were so fortunate to have her in their lives. Amy always treated everyone in the courthouse with respect, and her passion for her clients was evident in everything she did. She will be missed by all of us who had the privilege of knowing her professionally. May your fond memories of her bring you comfort now and in the weeks ahead

Kathleen Georgevich - January 17 at 01:22 PM

FM

“ Our sympathy and special prayers for Amy and all her family and friends.

Fr. Jack Clair/Residents of Misericordia - January 16 at 02:38 PM

MS

“ Amy was a very hard-working attorney and not hesitant to argue any issue on any case if it were for the better representation of her client. I admired her for both. She was tough but kind when the situation required it. She dug into her own pocket for cab fare when one of our clients surprised us both at Court and needed a safe ride back to the facility. Our office benefited from her volunteer health care presentations at our trainings. She always said "yes," when we asked her for her time. Despite my reluctance, she got me to chuckle and laugh at myself when we were at odds on cases. Amy had the ability to "shake off" bad vibes at the end of the day, and start anew the next day, long before that phrase entered popular culture. Enjoy Heaven Amy. God bless your family.

Madeleine Sharko - January 16 at 02:10 PM

JE

“ I am just heartbroken to learn of Amy's passing. We worked together when she was at Michigan. Her energy, passion and humor were inspirational, bringing out the best in all around her. Even though we lost touch when she moved to Chicago, the few times we did connect via Facebook, it felt like no time had passed. Amy was truly one of a kind. My deepest condolences to her husband, daughters, family and friends. She had a great spirit, may it live on in our memories.

Julie Evershed - January 16 at 12:51 PM

AB

“ Amber Drafz Boykin lit a candle in memory of Amy McCarty



Amber Drafz Boykin - January 16 at 12:31 AM

KC

“ Amy's passing is such a tremendous loss. My sincere and deep condolences to Amy's family, friends and colleagues. My prayers go out especially to her husband, children, parents and siblings. She had a fierce devotion to her family and spoke so happily about her life when we would talk in and out of Court. She often shared photos or funny stories about "her girls" and was so very proud of them. May your memories of her bring you some semblance of comfort in the days, months and years ahead. I feel so blessed to have known her and will be forever grateful for her friendship.

Karen Callahan - January 15 at 10:11 PM

LS

“ Wishing Amy's family peace to bring comfort, courage to face the days ahead and loving memories to forever hold in their hearts ~
Laura Sakas

Laura Sakas - January 15 at 07:18 PM



“ *Madhuri Patel lit a candle in memory of Amy McCarty*



Madhuri Patel - January 15 at 05:07 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Madhuri Patel - January 15 at 05:06 PM



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall

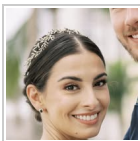


Madhuri Patel - January 15 at 04:56 PM

UM

Condolences to Amy's husband Tim Miksell, who somehow wasn't recognized in the printed eulogy.

Uncle Mike - January 15 at 07:50 PM



“ *A mentor, a friend, a confidant, a shining ray of positivity, and an icon! It is hard to put into words how much of an impact Amy had on me professionally and personally. She was fiercely protective and one of the most extroverted people I've ever met. She loved her people so much and I just feel so lucky to have felt that. Amy, you are so loved and missed.*

Anna Dz - January 15 at 03:49 PM

BG

“ *Beth Grayson lit a candle in memory of Amy McCarty*



Beth Grayson - January 15 at 03:34 PM

BG

Periwinkle is a color of strength and goodness. She Was a tour de force in her law practice and with her clients. Thank you Amy for your knowledge, generous spirit and tenacity for kindness and understanding of the fragility of her client's situations. Thank you and God Bless.

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Beth Grayson - January 15 at 03:42 PM

VE

“ *As a mother of two girls, my sincere condolences go out to Amy's family, but especially her parents, her husband and her two little girls. She was the first "chick" I saw wearing Red Bottoms to court. We had our battles in the courtroom, but I respect(ed) her fight and her gift. May it live on in her girls! I prayed for YOU; I hope my prayers reached you. Fly High! -Vanessa (OSG)*

Vanessa Y. Bennett, Esq. - January 15 at 02:15 PM

JO

As Amy's childhood dentist and long time family friend I respected her integrity and Was impressed when she came to Rockford because a guy accidentally chipped her front tooth. I suggested she sue the jerk and she had already forgiven him. The average pretty young attorney might have thought different but not Amy. She really had compassion for everyone. I'll miss you Amy like everyone will. Jim

jim ongena. - January 15 at 03:01 PM

MT

“ Greg & Mary Tuite are profoundly sad in the passing of Amy's light. What a warrior. We send our love to the McCarty family, Tim and daughters. Our love & gratitude is surrounding all of you.

Mary A Tuite - January 15 at 12:09 PM



“ Thank you for paving the way for so many. - Kelley Bell Hallworth

Kelley Hallworth - January 15 at 11:02 AM



“ Amy was a force of nature. She was an incredible attorney who inspired me. She was a beacon of light to people with disabilities who needed guardians and a mentor to other attorneys so there would be more of us to help those in need. RIP Amy. You will be so missed.

SJ Chapman - January 15 at 07:47 AM

LB

“ A beautiful Angel in heels just soared into Heaven.

Leslie Burke - January 15 at 12:21 AM

SB

“ My prayers for Amy's family and friends at this time. She will be missed by all on the 18th floor.

Sr. Bonnie Boilini - January 14 at 10:54 PM

DO

“ I was so lucky to have worked at MLG under Amy while in my final year of law school. I'll never forget the last time I saw her. She gave me the biggest hug. She always gave the best hugs. I admired her fierceness as an attorney, her heart, and the most importantly the dedication she had to those beautiful girls of hers and her family. Praying for her loved ones.

Donna - January 14 at 10:14 PM



“ No words. What a light.

Kevin Lichtenberg - January 14 at 10:02 PM

LA

“ Amy was special. A bright light. I was privileged to call her Friend
🍀💚

Liam Aherne - January 14 at 09:15 PM

TL

Such an amazing person.

Tarick Loutfi - January 15 at 02:52 PM

ES

My deepest condolences to Amy's family. What a gift she was to them and to all who knew her.

Elaine Sit - January 16 at 01:01 PM

KB

Amy was a friend and colleague at the Public Guardian's Office. She was a true advocate for the children in her charge. My condolences go out to her daughters, her husband, her parents, siblings and the host of people who loved Amy. May they find peace in this time of bereavement.

Kimberlie Boone - January 19 at 10:53 AM