

Judge Martha Wyatt, of Arundel District Court, dies at 48

A memorial service for Judge Martha Wyatt, who was active in women's legal matters before becoming, in 1984, the first woman named to the District Court in Anne Arundel County, will be held at 2 p.m. tomorrow in the Great Hall at St. John's College in Annapolis.

Judge Wyatt, who was 48, died Monday of cancer at her home in Annapolis.

In a 1986 interview, Judge Thomas J. Curley, administrative judge of the court in the county, described her as "one gutsy lady" who handled the pressures of the crowded court system well.

At the same time, Judge Wyatt said of the work, "I can't believe I'm getting paid for it. It's so much fun."

She was a founder of the Women's Law Center of Anne Arundel

County and remained active in the group until she was named a judge. In 1980, a domestic violence bill she and others in the center had prepared and lobbied for was enacted by the legislature.

From 1981 to 1984, she chaired the Maryland Commission for Women.

The former Martha Goldstein was a native of Philadelphia who was ed-

ucated in the public schools there before attending St. John's College in Annapolis.

After her graduation, she studied at the college's Graduate Institute in Santa Fe, N.M.

While at St. John's she met her husband, Malcolm Wyatt, who is a tutor and assistant dean at the college.

She taught briefly in the Anne

Arundel County schools, studied the cello at the Peabody Conservatory and worked as a researcher in State Archives and as director of the music library at St. John's before deciding to go to law school.

Graduating from the University of Maryland in 1976, she was admitted to the bar the next year.

She served as an intern in the General Assembly office of the attorney general and became a partner in the Annapolis law firm of Legum, Cochran, Chartrand and Wyatt, where she remained until 1982, when she switched to the firm of Blumenthal, Delevan, Offut and Moodispaw.

She was a member of the American, Maryland, District of Columbia and Maryland Women's bar associations.

In addition to her husband, her survivors include two daughters, Rachel Wyatt of New York City and Ruth Wyatt of Annapolis; a son, Mark Wyatt of Annapolis; and a sister, Judith Joseph of Philadelphia.

The family suggested that memorial contributions could be made to the YWCA Woman's Center in Annapolis.