A Tribute to Christine Barnes - Class of 2008 - Central Chapter

We pay tribute to UVM Extension Master Gardener and Project Leader Christine Barnes of Northfield, VT, who passed away peacefully on March 27 with her husband and fellow Master Gardener, Gordon Perkinson, at her side. Christine volunteered countless hours, along with fellow volunteers, to organize and oversee 17 different garden installations in Northfield, including the gardens at Depot Square, Dog River Park, Northfield Senior Center and Library, and many other locations.

Since joining the Master Gardener program in 2008, Christine was a tireless volunteer, and contributed 993 volunteer hours, just 7 hours shy of reaching her 1,000 hour Lifetime Achievement Award. Christine was an avid sportswoman and birder, enjoying the Vermont outdoors year round hiking, skiing, and snowshoeing.

Master Gardener and fellow volunteer Debbie Zuaro remembers Christine's commitment to the Northfield gardens. "I know the gardeners in our town will carry on Christine's efforts. We will all remember her when we see these gardens in full bloom come summer." And fellow Master Gardener Kim Adams recalls Christine's many talents. "She was truly a remarkable woman in many respects. A terrible loss both personally and for the Northfield community." And new EMG intern Brett Murphy was positively impacted by Christine's mentoring. "Although I only met her recently, I enjoyed her enthusiasm for the Northfield community and her passion for gardening. I will miss her leadership."

Christine will be honored posthumously with the UVM Extension Master Gardener Gold Badge Award for contributing 1,000 hours of volunteer time in support of the program's mission to raise awareness of science-based gardening practices for home gardeners in Vermont.

Photo Captions:
#1 Christine Barnes in a downtown Northfield Garden
#2 Northfield Gardeners Kim Adams, Christine Barnes, and Debbie Zuaro at Dog River Park pollinator garden
#3 One of the many birdhouses in the Northfield Gardens