



ANN HEALEY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER



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Making plans: Jim Kerwin (center) plans the Clara Ann Kerwin Memorial Tennis tournament with Theresa O'Leary (left), tournament director, and Barb Hill, activities for the Farmington Tennis Club.

Tennis

it," Jim said.

An MRI revealed the tumor. Clara was admitted to the hospital in February where she stayed until her death April 16. She was 75.

Farmington Tennis Club staff and members attended her funeral at Heenev-Sundquist Funeral Home. The flag at the club on Farmington Road south of 14 Mile flew at half-staff.

"She was quite a person," Farmington Tennis Club owner Herschel Riley said.

Riley came up with the idea for the tournament. He got the OK from her husband.

Riley also asked him to play, which led to a soul-searching decision for Kerwin.

After his wife's death, Jim couldn't bear to play tennis because of the memories.

"I just couldn't handle it," he said. "I would go to the Birmingham Tennis club and just sit there and be with her friends."

Kerwin will be paired with Steve Hack, a longtime member of the Farmington club.

Three flights of doubles are planned for men and women. The entry fee includes continental breakfast. Trophies will go to the flight winners.

"The concept is good," Kerwin said. "She was a social player and doubles is a social part of the game."

Entry deadline for The Cal Kerwin Memorial Benefit Tennis Tournament is Friday, Dec. 23. For information, call 476-3246.

Practice, practice: Jim Kerwin gets in some practice before the tennis tournament that will honor the memory of his late wife.



Favorite cap: Clara Ann Kerwin, shown in a 1991 photo, wears a favorite tennis cap. She was buried with the cap on.

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'It was really her everything. It was her release. It was her enjoyment. It was a major part of her life.'

Jim Kerwin

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