



Kathleen Patricia Christian

December 16, 1954 - August 11, 2022

Kathleen Patricia Christian was a caring mother, grandmother, and friend. She passed unexpectedly on August 11, 2022 at age 67. She left behind two sons - David and Michael - and five grandchildren - Celyn, Asher, Zachary, Edmund, and Saoirse.

Kathleen was the only child of Tom and Elsie Merrigan. She was a hardworking and intelligent woman having held multiple administrative positions over the years and earning a masters in Biblical Counseling from Birmingham Theological Seminary. She was a skilled photographer and jewelry maker, and her passion (like her heritage) was in Ireland.

She will be remembered by friends and family for her love and warmth, and for the hope she had for the

future. Her favorite Bible verse was Jeremiah 29:11

"For I know the plans I have for you." declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Tribute Wall

BD

“ Kathy and I taught at the same private Christian school so many years ago. I will always remember her wicked laugh, her big personality and even bigger heart! She sure loved her boys! Kathy was also part of my church deans team for a brief while, and I remember having her son David in the school play “Little Women” in 1996.

Kathy was witty, but kind. Generous in spirit and a caring friend. I had only recently found her on Facebook. Her passing was such a shock. But I know she's with Jeausxsnd we'll see her again one day.

Becky Duncan - August 31, 2022 at 09:01 PM

BD

Wish I could edit all the auto-type errors. Kathy was on my church drama team.

Becky Duncan - August 31, 2022 at 09:03 PM

RH

I know what you mean - same with me. 🙄

Royce Henry - September 03, 2022 at 04:10 PM

RH

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Royce Henry - August 31, 2022 at 01:09 AM

TC

“ Kathleen and I worked together for about 3 years. In that short time, I learned what a dear person she was and she taught me so many things. Not about our jobs, as we worked in separate departments, but about life and historical facts and such intriguing “Did You Knows”. We would share our woes with each other, as well as our good times. She **ADORED** her grandchildren and bragged on them and her own children all the time. She was such a loving person. I will miss her deeply but I know she will never feel bad again, or hurt again, and God will keep his wings around her. Rest In Peace my dear friend.

Terri Constable - August 30, 2022 at 03:20 AM

LK

“David and Michael, my heart goes out to you at this time. Your mom was a special woman whom God had given many gifts. I can say with utmost confidence that you two boys were the light of her life, and we spent many hours talking and praying together for wisdom on what to do to assist you two and my three kids to grow up to become men and women who could be ready to face this world with confidence and knowledge.

I have so many memories concerning your mom. We were close when we worked together. The one that stands out the most to me was when my husband was first diagnosed with diabetes. Sometimes being a health care worker (as I was before I became a teacher) can be a curse because your mind goes to all the negative impacts of any illness or disorder. For some reason your mom said she felt like she needed to call me. As soon as she said this my strong face fell and I collapsed into tears. Your mom let me talk, leading me to that place I needed to be in my faith that God was in control. She allowed me to talk, cry, share all my doubts of fear for my precious husband and left me as a woman clinging to her faith in God and His infinite comfort. I will never forget that afternoon.

Kathleen was a precious woman, a beautiful friend, and though we didn't get to talk much in her last days, I know she is in a far, far better place. I look forward to being able to talk and share with her again in that day when we see each other again in His glorious presence.

My prayers are with you both, your wives, and your beautiful children.

*In Christ's love,
Lillie Kelly*

Lillie Kelly - August 27, 2022 at 01:19 PM



“ Kathleen and I met in college at LSUNO. We were both Star Trek fans. We wrote fan fiction together and hung out and had a lot of fun. Once upon a time, on our way to the mall ... not sure which one ... she stood up in the front seat of my little British rag top car and yelled "Follow that star ship!", flopped back into the seat and we were laughing heartily by the time we pulled into the parking lot. I flew in to visit her when she graduated from college with her BA. She took me to the space center in Huntsville and we went horse back riding and talked and talked and talked. Unfortunately, with me in NM and her in Alabama and other places, we didn't talk or see each other after that, but she always had a place in my heart and my memories. Wish we'd talked more. My sincere condolences to her family and friends.

Sallie Loftin - August 26, 2022 at 02:24 AM



“ We will so dearly miss our cousin Kathleen. We all such fond memories of our childhood and spending weekends/holidays with our grandmother, aunts, uncles and cousins. We gathered at Aunt Nell & Uncle Henry's house for so many family get togethers. I'm so glad Kathleen got to take her Ireland trip and enjoy her new home. She loved her grandchildren and were so proud of them. I know she's visiting with her mom Elsie & dad Tom and they're all looking out for us now. Until we meet again, know that your Ramirez cousins will always remember you and will love you eternally. RIP cousin Kathleen ❤️

Lee Farrar - August 25, 2022 at 07:08 PM

HR

We all gathered together for years at Aunt Nell's for Holidays and special gatherings. I always loved her and appreciated her prayers. She made sure that I knew how much the LORD loves us. I'm sad on a family and personal level but know she's in heaven with the LORD. I want to send out prayers and condolences to her family and friends during this difficult time. She had a real love for life and people and I carry her smile in my wonderful memories of her. One day we all will be together again. ❤️

Hugh Ramirez - August 25, 2022 at 07:29 PM

CC

“ Kathleen was of the kindest people I've ever known. She married my uncle Joe and I came to know and love her through there union....Joseph and Kathleen would come visit in Atlanta over the last 20 years.I would do there hair and we would have fun listening to my dad sing and play guitar over a good meal. She loved getting her hair done and I loved the time we got to share.My father Craig and his brother Joseph would play chess and get into heated debates over politics and God while me and mom and Kathleen would cook and talk and laugh at the two brothers ..my father Craig passed then Joseph passed ..My mom and I were able to spend some time with her together. She loved going g to church with us..She will be missed greatly..What a shock .I am deeply sorry .my condolences to the family I will never forget her!



Christina Caraglor - August 25, 2022 at 03:01 PM

KR

“ I remember the day I met Ms Kathleen. I was sitting at McDonalds eating breakfast when her and Mr Joseph sat next to me. We immediately connected and I chalked the whole thing up to an amazing connection the Lord made in a day I really needed it not thinking I would ever see her again. Five months later I was pumping gas and there she was 30 minutes later I walked away with a job at Crawford with her. She became the bright spot in my day and in my life. She has lived me and my daughter with love only the Father could give. Amazing woman of G-d. Incredible witness how to live your life for the Lord. My prayers are with you all. I will miss he GREATLY.

Kelly Ray - August 25, 2022 at 01:40 PM

“ David, Lindsey, Michael, and April,

Aunt Mary and I were sorry to hear about your mom's passing. Kathy was very dear to our hearts, as all of you are. Please know of our continued prayers and willingness to assist you in the journey.

You might not know this, but your mom was in our wedding (1981). If you could see the photos, you would see a person who brought life to every frame. Her million-dollar smile was on every picture the photographer took that special day. As we all know, Kathy was passionate about many things. She was a strong advocate for hurting people. Your mother strived to do right, and she desired to do right by people. That is what made her such an excellent counselor. The discerning heart the Lord gave Kathy was a genuine gift from heaven. Your mother immediately recognized individuals masking sadness, hurt, and pain. And she had a way of opening doors that brought comfort to that person or persons.

Though many do not know this about me, I have struggled every Christmas season since 1976 with the pain of the death of my parents. Left alone, my mind wanders back to the blessing my father and mother were to my sister and me. We were the Hughes family and loved each other deeply. But, as scripture acknowledges, death has a sting that will only be conquered when we enter the gates of glory. My desire for privacy often carried this burden of grief alone (or only with Aunt Mary), but somehow your mom discerned my inner sorrow.

There was a time when all of us were together for a Henry Family Christmas Reunion at your grandparents' home at 4736 Avenue S in Birmingham. Unknown to most, I had slipped away to the quiet living room by the fire and was openly grieving the loss of my parents. Your mom must have discerned my absence. She came into the quiet room and immediately said, as though she knew my mind, "you miss them, don't you?" The counselor had the pastor cornered. Your mother sat patiently and listened as my broken heart

told the story. And then, Kathy prayed with me and left the fire-lit room as quietly as she had entered. Those moments were never spoken of again until now, but I will never forget your mother's empathy, kindness, discernment, and sisterly love.

Time marches on for all of us. But allow me the privilege to pay this story forward with each of you when those moments of deep sorrow get the best of you. To that end, I shall continually pray for you and your families.

Love,

Uncle Neal

Neal Hughes - August 23, 2022 at 05:28 PM

“ I could not agree more with what was said about Kathleen (I knew her as Kathy) in her obituary. She was all that - and more. I was her husband from 1978 until 2001. You don't live with someone for 23 years without learning some things about them. Kathy was a woman of strong Christian character. Her life demonstrated many of the fruits of the Spirit as outlined in Galatians Chapter 5 verses 22 and 23 - "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness". I'm so thankful that LONGSUFFERING is one of the fruits. If it were not - I seriously doubt she would have been able to put up with me for as long as she did.

My heart goes out to our two children to whom she gave birth - David and Michael - as well as their wives and children - our grandchildren. Truly Kathy's boys were her joy - and she loved them dearly.

As far as sharing a memory it is difficult to pick just one - there are many. Kathy and I met back in January or February (don't remember exactly which month) of 1978 and we married in October of that same year. While we were dating, I remember this one particular day. I can't recall if Kathy called me first to let me know she was coming over to my house or if she just showed up without warning - but what I DO remember is that she kidnapped me. In fact - I seem to remember her using those exact words. She would not tell me where she was taking me and I had NO idea. Turned out she had prepared a picnic lunch for us to enjoy at a state park. I seem to remember it was Guntersville State Park although I could be wrong. But whether I have the location right or not I just remember it was a lovely day and how much fun we had. I have many more happy memories as well - both from before we were married as well as after. The decade of the 80s when our children were born (1980 and 1984) and were little was my favorite decade and produced many...many...MANY happy memories. My big regret is that I was not the husband to her that God would have had me to be. If I had been - most likely we would have still been married when she went

to be with Jesus and would not have been all alone. But I know she forgave me and I look forward to all the TRILLIONS of memories we will make throughout all eternity.

Royce Henry - August 20, 2022 at 05:17 PM

NT

Kathleen was such a sweet and warm person.. it has been some years since we've seen one another, but always a joy when we were able to visit. I send my prayers and deepest sympathies to the family. I know she is with The Lord and having a glorious time.

Nan Tedesco - August 25, 2022 at 02:52 AM

SR

My husband and I met Kathy at Mississippi College. We quickly became friends and remained so until she moved to Alabama. We spent hours just talking along with several close friends. Throughout the following years we lost touch until the Facebook came along and we have remained in contact since. Kathy was a beautiful soul and loved her family dearly. So sorry to hear of her passing and pray God's comfort for her family.

Suzie Wade Ritchie - August 25, 2022 at 03:18 PM

RH

“*David and Michael - both you and your families are in my thoughts and prayers as you deal with this loss. I not only sympathize - but having lost both of my parents and knowing what that feels like - I truly empathize as well. If there is ANYTHING I can do for either of you - please don't hesitate to let me know.*

As your Uncle Jim and Aunt Laura said so well - I too am sorry that Kathy's grandchildren won't have her around - won't experience the love she had for them. It falls on you both to be sure your children know just how special they truly were to her and exactly just how much she loved them. May God richly bless you all during this time of bereavement as you look to Him for strength and comfort. - Dad

Royce Henry - August 20, 2022 at 04:54 PM

JH

“ *Michael and David, April and Lindsey, we are very sorry for your loss. She was so proud of her boys and their families, especially those precious grandchildren. More than anything, we are sorry that the children won't have her here to watch them grow and feel the love of a grandmother. You will have to tell them how special they were to her and how much she loved them. God bless you all and may He keep you in His loving care.*
Uncle Jim and Aunt Laura

James and Laura Henry - August 15, 2022 at 02:24 PM

RH

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Royce Henry - August 13, 2022 at 05:56 PM