



## Kathleen Kennedy

April 6, 1934 - July 8, 2023

Just 16 days after Spring began in Lacrosse, WI in 1934, Frank J. Kennedy and Ethel Clark Kennedy were anticipating their wedding anniversary. As a mutual gift to each other on that day they also shared the birth of a beautiful baby girl, Kathleen. From that day on April 6 was double cause for celebration.

Kate peacefully took the final steps of her life journey on Saturday, July 8, 2023.

Kathleen (Kate) made her parents proud at every turn. She loved attending Blessed Sacrament School with her sisters and friends, so much so that after graduating from Notre Dame Academy and the University of Toledo, she taught at Blessed Sacrament for six years. She then pursued a job in Adams Township (Fall Meyer), St. Rose Perrysburg and Westwood and Trilby in the Washington Local Schools District.

After a 41 year teaching career she retired and volunteered as a tutor to prepare adults for U.S. citizenship. Kate loved teaching and truly loved the students she was assigned each year. Her skills were well known. She received the Outstanding Educator Award and was nominated to Who's Who Among American Teachers. More treasured than these were the affirming notes she received from her students each year. Her various superintendents

tapped her to serve on many committees requiring her expertise.

Kate enjoyed needlepoint and many were the recipients of her beautiful work. She also enjoyed sports as a player, coach, fan and referee for the CYO Program. She was an avid follower of the teams of her students, nephews, nieces and favorite colleges, especially the University of Notre Dame and the University of Toledo Women's basketball.

Kate loved her family and spent much time with her nieces and nephews and those of her friends having wonderful fun. She loved the Christmas Season, always remembering to place the manger scene front and center. Her home was beautifully decorated as were the Christmas cookies baked with her sisters and nieces. She followed the baking with a special day during the holidays when she invited a kitchenful of eager children to ice cookies to take home.

Kate was a faithful Catholic all her life and godparent to many. She ushered at Mass and helped prepare the second graders of her parish for First Communion. She set a life example that was recognized and emulated.

It goes without saying that Kate loved her family very much. Her parents, brother, Jack, brothers-in law Jim Todak and Jerry Czerniakowski, and great nephew Greg Todak preceded her in death. She is survived by sisters Jeanne Todak, Pat Czerniakowski, Sr. Mary Sue Kennedy, O.P. and sister- in-law, Joyce Kennedy, and lifetime friend and loving caregiver, Carol Stoll. Also missing Aunt Kate will be 9 nieces and nephews, 10 great nieces and nephews and 9 great-great nieces and nephews.

We would like to thank Hospice of Northwest Ohio for providing outstanding aids and nurses to assist Kate through her illness. Also, we are so grateful for the wonderful care and kindnesses provided to Kate daily by all the aids,

nurses front desk personnel and administrators at Charter Senior Living at Oak Openings, Sylvania.

Kate's funeral service will be at St. Pius X Church, Wednesday, July 12, 2023 at 11:00 AM. Visitation will take place 1 hour before, beginning at 10:00 AM at the church. Burial Services will be private.

If you choose to give a donation, please consider the Adrian Dominican Sisters or Hospice of Northwest (HNWO).

# Previous Events

## Visitation

JUL 12. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Pius X Church  
3011 Carskaddon Ave  
Toledo, OH 43606

## Mass of the Resurrection

JUL 12. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. Pius X Church  
3011 Carskaddon Ave  
Toledo, OH 43606

# Tribute Wall

MS

“ Although I only knew Kate for a short time, I admired her as an educator and person. Deepest sympathy to family and friends of Kate esp. Carol Stoll.

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**Marge Scsavnicki** - July 14, 2023 at 12:34 PM

JE

“ If ever there was an example of Christianity, Kate was one of them. She touched numerous lives with her many acts of caring and kindness.

*I had the privilege of teaching at Trilby School with Kate, and my career was enriched because of it. Like me, she had definite classroom rules that her students all knew they had better follow; but each and everyone of them also knew that he/she had a special place in her heart. Kate spent many extra hours planning special activities not only for her classroom, but also for the entire student body. Who else could have gotten me to stand on stage in a candy bar (Mr. Goodbar, I believe) costume?*

*When Ms. Kennedy retired, she was generous beyond measure and continued to touch the lives of many future students with all the materials she donated to me. I moved into her classroom and began teaching ancient civilizations only hoping I could make those lessons half as interesting as she had. I had HUGE steps to follow!*

*Though my contact with Kate was limited after she left Trilby, my family and I thought of her often - especially at Christmastime when we would always remember the delicious cheeseball she had made for us for so many years. I did, however, try to always go over and talk with her at the UT women's basketball games to maintain that friendship. Of course, she was as welcoming then as ever.*

*I feel blessed to have had Kate as a part of my life. God has added a treasure to His heavenly home.*

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**Jan Ellenberger** - July 11, 2023 at 08:11 PM

MR

“ My aunt Kate has always been such an important part of my life growing up and now. We would always go over to her house for get togethers and she would always let me steal a Pepsi out of the fridge, or mnms she had hidden in her kitchen drawer. I would always tag along for cookie baking sessions close to Christmas time and she would giggle at my decorations of the sugar cookies, but always included me with everything the adults got to do. There are so many more memories I have that I will always cherish and remember. The one thing she truly loved were my tattoos, we were going to get matching ones one day! If you know aunt Kate, you know she's not a big fan and that was sarcasm haha. She loved my mom and dad with all of her heart, and my brother Devon. I would annoy her with random visits to the house and even to where she was in the end, she would always have a smile on her face and welcomed me with open arms! I am blessed she brought aunt Carol into my life as she is one of the best blessings I have. Aunt Kate was an amazing person, she was loving and so full of kindness. She loved her family, she loved everyone she met, even dogs sometimes. As I sit here and type this message, I am filled with Joy with all of the memories I was blessed with. It's okay to not be okay sometimes, and to my family, remember that! I will always love you Aunt Kate and now you'll forever be my guardian angel. See you soon, Morgan.

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morgan moore reddick - July 11, 2023 at 07:40 PM

JC

“ So many happy memories with my Aunt Kate, I am not sure where to even start. First, she was one of the most giving, caring and positive person that I have ever met or been around. I remember I used to get her upset sometimes and to this day, I tell my friends there are only 2 people that really call me Jeffery when they get mad and that would be Aunt Kate and my Mom. When they say that word, I know I did something wrong. I moved from Toledo to Newport Beach, CA in Jan 1997 and I was not able to get back usually more than once a year but that does not mean I ever stopped thinking about her or forgetting about all the great times and memories we shared together. One of my first stops to visit when I was in town was to Aunt Kates house. Of course, when I was a kid the big one was always going over and spending the night around Christmas time to decorate the Christmas tree, shop for presents, "money game", come back and wrap the presents and I cannot leave out decorating the cookies. She hosted Christmas so many times which always got me really excited to go over and anyone was welcome to come over which truly shows the kind of woman she was. I remember so many times walking to the igloo for ice cream. When my Mom or Dad said we were going over to visit, I always got so excited and especially staying the night and playing video games. To this day, I have never been a big reader with books etc but we always went to library and picked out some books when I stayed the night so she was still always teaching. As I grew older, I used to always ride my bike from our place to hers on Rushland Avenue so many times and she always welcomes me with open arms. Now we cannot leave out for years when I came over a lot to cut her grass, she always had something cold for me to drank and after we just sat on the front porch and just talked a lot about life. I don't think there was one person out there that did not get along with her and that is something rare now a days to find with so many personalities. She is loved by so many people and especially me and I will truly miss her from the bottom of my heart. She was a huge part in my upbringing and I owe her so much and I just want to say thank you Aunt Kate for everything you have done for means and Rest In Peace because you sure deserve it. Jeff Czerniakowski

**Jeff Czerniakowski** - July 11, 2023 at 05:44 AM

LG

“*Kate has touched many hearts! She was one of the most giving people that I know. She made holiday gatherings special....and always made everyone feel important and loved. She has passed down quite a legacy. Will miss her tremendously! RIP my friend! 🥺👍*

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**Linda Granata** - July 10, 2023 at 09:01 PM

TT

“*Since John first introduced me to the Kennedy Sisters sitting on Kate's front porch till last days before she moved out, Kate's front porch was the hot spot. She would be reading or sewing but would set it aside to offer you a coffee or a beer while we would sit and talk. Didn't matter if you friend, family, neighbor, mailperson or one of those dogs from across the street, all were welcome and a chair with beverage provided. Sorry about all the fuss Kate but you are loved and missed beyond measure. Gonna miss yeah, Aunt Kate. Love, Tracy*

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**Tracy Todak** - July 10, 2023 at 08:00 PM

SL

“*I met Kate soon after my husband Pete and I moved in across the street from her. A bat had come into our house and I was alone with a two yrs old lol. She opened her door to help us with no hesitation. From that meeting we became quick friends sitting on her porch each summer. I will always have those memories.she will be very missed. Rest in Peace my friend. Sharon and Peter Lynch*

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**Sharon Lynch** - July 10, 2023 at 07:48 PM