



Kathleen Kelly Mucha

December 4, 1944 - December 10, 2024

Kathleen (Kathy) Kelly (McNamara) Mucha Obituary

Kathleen Kelly (McNamara) Mucha, age 80, of Golden Valley, Minnesota passed away peacefully on December 10, 2024, after a courageous 20-month battle with cancer. Kathy was born on December 4, 1944, to Dr. John P. and Mary Jane (Mason) McNamara in Indianapolis, Indiana. She was the oldest of 10 children and the family lived in Indiana, Kansas and lastly St. Cloud, Minnesota.

Kathy graduated from St. Cloud Cathedral high school in 1962 and went on to St. Catherine's University where she earned a bachelor's degree in occupational therapy in 1966. On December 17, 1966, she and Joe, were married and for the first 12 years of their life together, they lived in Okinawa; Minneapolis; Norwalk, Connecticut; Fremont Ohio; Olivia, Minnesota; St. Louis, Missouri and finally Golden Valley, Minnesota.

While living in Okinawa, Kathy discovered her true calling as an artist when she enrolled in an Ikebana (Sogetsu) flower arranging class taught by a Japanese master instructor. The Lord gave Kathy the artistic talent of understanding the interrelationship between design and space to create a desired mood or theme. When the family settled in Golden Valley in 1978, she joined the Ikebana Society of Minnesota and her creations were exhibited at

the Como Zoo and Conservatory, Dayton's Department Store and the Minnesota Arboretum. She created designs and decorations for Good Shepherd Catholic Church for major church liturgical events like Christmas, Easter and other church holy days. While in the Mother's Club at Benilde St. Margaret's high school, she decorated the school gym for father/daughter and mother/son dances and major fundraising events. Her Christmas parties and decorations were memorable and legendary with new themes every year and the grandchildren were always "wowed" by Nana's centerpiece at the Thanksgiving table set with her finest china, silverware and crystal glasses. Kathy's last artistic work was the family backyard. This was her "heaven on earth" and she was the happiest there working with the plants, trees, setting and moving huge rocks and creating pathways where the grandchildren could run free and play.

Kathy was preceded in death by her parents and sister, Elizabeth. She is survived by her husband, Joe, and daughters Tara Pittelko, Loryn (Mike) Follrath, Dana (Greg) Mucha-Worm and 6 grandchildren, Petra Pittelko; Gracyn, Joe and John Follrath; and Max and Ben Mucha-Worm. Also surviving are her sisters, Janey McNamara, Mary Ann (Tom) Milhelich, Erin (Robert Goss) McNamara, Michaela (Scott) Deters, and her brothers, George (Damita), Timothy, John (LuAnn), and Christopher McNamara, as well as 7 nieces and 4 nephews.

Visitation will begin at 10:00 am and the Celebration of Life Mass at 11:00 am, Friday, December 20th at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church located at 145 Jersey Avenue S., Golden Valley, Minnesota. Interment will be at the St. John's Cemetery in Collegeville, Minnesota this spring. In lieu of flowers, please direct any honorariums to the Kathleen K Mucha Scholarship at St. Catherine's University, 2004 Randolph Ave. St. Paul, Mn 55105.

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **20**. 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (CT)

Church of The Good Shepherd (Golden Valley)
145 Jersey Ave. S.
Golden Valley, MN 55426

Memorial Service

DEC **20**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (CT)

Church of The Good Shepherd (Golden Valley)
145 Jersey Ave. S.
Golden Valley, MN 55426

Tribute Wall



“ I extend my sincere condolences to Kathy's family on her passing.
We were classmates at Cathedral.
Tom Jurek, Cheyenne Wy.

thomas jurek - December 31, 2024 at 04:02 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.

December 18, 2024 at 01:08 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.



December 18, 2024 at 01:08 PM



“ McKeown Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.

McKeown Family - December 18, 2024 at 11:29 AM

MF

“ *McKeown Family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.*



McKeown Family - December 18, 2024 at 11:29 AM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.

December 17, 2024 at 09:56 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.*



December 17, 2024 at 09:56 PM

DL

“ *Dave and Steph Lilak purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.*



Dave and Steph Lilak - December 17, 2024 at 03:45 PM

DL

“ Dave and Steph Lilak planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.

Dave and Steph Lilak - December 17, 2024 at 03:45 PM

TF

“ Tom and Cathy Follrath, Brooke and Jeff Johnson, Heather and Jim Almand and Families planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.

Tom and Cathy Follrath, Brooke and Jeff Johnson, Heather and Jim Almand and Families - December 17, 2024 at 03:28 PM

JM

“ Sending our heartfelt condolences to the Mucha family. May our Lord Jesus Christ welcome Kathy into heaven with open and loving arms. Surely she'll have the best garden ever to tend to while being an angel for all of the Mucha family forever.
Cindi & John Machuzick

John Machuzick - December 17, 2024 at 03:02 PM

CM

“ Cindi & John Machuzick planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.

Cindi & John Machuzick - December 17, 2024 at 02:55 PM

CM

“ *Cindi & John Machuzick purchased the Forever Our Angel Bouquet for the family of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.*



Cindi & John Machuzick - December 17, 2024 at 02:55 PM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kathleen Kelly Mucha.*



December 16, 2024 at 06:04 PM

PB

“ *To Joe and the girls, my deep sympathy. I cherish my memories of chats over coffee, trips with the ladies, but most of all, Kathy's ready presence with words of encouragement and support. When I moved from Minnesota, I missed her and her steadfast friendship. You are all in my prayers during this sad time.*
Peggy Breimayer

Peggy Breimayer - December 14, 2024 at 12:01 PM

TN

“ *Being in Kathy’s presence was always fun. She was so smart, present, patient and had the best laugh! Years back, we went to NY with a group of friends and I still chuckle when I recall being with her and Lynn Pierner on the Fox News set. My most sincere condolences to Joe and Family.*

Tris Nelson

Tris Nelson - December 14, 2024 at 09:13 AM