



Kathryn J. Babb

January 22, 1955 - November 23, 2022

Kathryn Jean Babb, 67, passed away unexpectedly Wednesday, November 23, 2022. She is survived by her best friend and husband, Sam Babb; daughters JJ and Donna Babb; son Jim Babb; daughter-in-law Julie Babb, son-in-law Eric Vonde; grandchildren Harrison Vonde, Geneva, Leah, and Samantha Ogrin, and Jules and Brazzie Babb; sister Nan Martin and husband Jim Nelson; brother-in-law Don Babb and wife Cathy Babb; along with countless friends and extended family members who will all miss her terribly. She was preceded in death by her brother Clifton Martin, parents, sister-in-law, and parents-in-law.

Kathy was born on January 22, 1955, in Hackensack, NJ, to Philip Martin and Barbara (Black) Martin. The middle child between big sister Nan and younger brother Clifton, she grew up in Glen Ellyn, IL. Kathy spent summers and holidays with her family at Buck Hill Resort in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania. She swam competitively and enjoyed horseback riding. In 1973 she graduated from Glenbard West High School and began school at Kansas State University where she majored in horticulture therapy and met her husband Sam.

The two married on August 5, 1978, in Wakeeney, KS. They settled in Fort Collins in 1979 where they had their three children- JJ, Jim, and Donna. Kathy gave of her time and energy generously, volunteering at her children's school,

leading Boy Scout troops, and teaching CPR and first aid classes at the Red Cross.

As her children got older, Kathy remained involved in their lives and spent time with each of them frequently. She also continued managing the home and the family farm in Kansas. Along with this she kept busy quilting, completing puzzles, reading, collecting a wide range of treasures, and spending time with her dogs.

Kathy loved being a grandmother to Harrison, Geneva, Leah, Samantha, Jules, and Brazzie. Not only would she visit them, she also spent hours videocalling with them, and sent each of them a card for holidays and even small occasions.

Kathy and Sam spent much of the last decade traveling for various antique car events and temporarily living in Rapid City, SD, and McPherson, KS, where Sam taught at the local colleges. Both Kathy and Sam believed fiercely in the benefits of education and devoted much time and money to McPherson College's auto restoration program. When it came to Sam, Kathy would follow him anywhere and be up for nearly any adventure he presented. Wherever their travels took them Kathy enjoyed seeing new things, learning about the history of the area, and making friends.

Above all Kathy loved Sam and her family to the moon and back. She will be forever missed.

A memorial Service will be held 11 am, Friday, December 2, 2022 at Bohlander Funeral Chapel.

"In place of flowers, please contribute to the McPherson College Auto Restoration Program through this link (<https://www.mcpherson.edu/giving/mak>)

e-a-gift/) and by selecting "Auto Restoration" from the Gift Designation drop-down menu and in the comment section, please put "for Kathy Babb."

Previous Events

Memorial Service

DEC 2. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (MT)

Bohlender Funeral Chapel
121 W. Olive Street
Fort Collins, CO 80524

Tribute Wall

PK

“ Sam & Family,

I just received the latest edition of "The Flywheel" magazine from McPherson College where I read of your generosity to the program and sadly, of Kathy's passing. I recalled that my wife Barb and I met both of you at the Summer Institute there in 2010 and it was noteworthy that both Kathy and Barb were among the few women actually brave enough to enroll in the courses! We enjoyed meeting you and had a great time that is fondly remembered.

I am sorry to say that Barb also went home to be with her Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ in 2022, so I do understand what you are going through. Please accept my heartfelt sympathy for your loss and know that I will pray for you and your family.

With respect,

*Paul Khoury
Duluth, Minnesota*

Paul Khoury - January 04, 2023 at 09:06 PM

FB

“ Kathy was my dear friend for close to thirty years. From the days when our sons became friends, to the Friday before she passed from our lives, she graced my life with a friendship that was accepting, supportive, and humorous. Kathy was the kindest and most generous person I have known; every shopping trip, be it to a thrift store or King Soopers, she had her eye out for a special something for a family member or friend. She spent her life giving her loved ones tangible gifts and her time. She was quick to volunteer when she noticed someone in need. Her generosity was admirable. Those 'red kettles' this holiday season will be running a bit short without Kathy's contributions. I will miss her terribly, I already do. May she rest in peace.

Fran Blyth - December 01, 2022 at 07:29 PM

JB

“ When I was younger Kathy was like a second mom to me. I was best friends with her son, Jim, and spent an awful lot of time with Babb family in their home. She was kind, sweet, caring, and funny. She was a wonderful person who will be greatly missed.

Joe Blyth - November 30, 2022 at 03:53 AM

MR

“ Everyone has that one friend from High School that will always be close to your heart, Kathy was that friend to me. We spent a lot of time together in High School. One summer I traveled to New Jersey with Kathy and her mom to visit her grandmother, and we spent some time at Buck Hill Resort too. After High school Kathy headed to Kansas State University, and I headed for the University of Colorado. I met my husband in Boulder CO., Kathy met her husband in Manhattan KS. In 1976 Kathy was in my wedding back in our hometown of Glen Ellyn, IL., I attended Kathy's wedding in Wakeeney KS in 1978. In 1979 it was great when Kathy finally joined me in Colorado, when Kathy and Sam moved to Ft. Collins. We enjoyed spending time together and having our daughters play together. In 1990 my career took my family back to the Midwest for 28 years. I finally returned to Colorado in 2018. We tried to reconnect but we were both busy traveling and enjoying being Grandparents. I am the person I am today because of all the people I have met on my life's journey, Kathy was one of those people who was an important part of my journey.



Mary E Rabaglia - November 29, 2022 at 04:58 PM

JB

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Juliann Babb - November 29, 2022 at 09:54 AM

LI

“ *Kathy was a dear friend to my mom Shirley Smith during their many years with the Antique Automobile Club here in town. So sad to see this news. Linda Smith Ingram*

Linda Smith Ingram - November 29, 2022 at 07:49 AM