



Janette Kohler

December 31, 1955 - July 5, 2020

Jan Kohler passed away peacefully in her home, surrounded by family, in Chestertown, MD, on the morning of July 5, 2020. Jan was born in Moses Lake, WA, December 31, 1955. Her parents were Robert and Delores Merriman. Jan lived most of her life between Florida and Maryland. She married Daniel N. Kohler on January 22nd, 1977. She graduated from Mount St. Mary's in 1977 with a Bachelor's of Science in Business and Finance. Her son, Daniel R. Kohler, was born in 1980, and her daughter, Katherine J. Kohler, was born in 1982.

Positivity, optimism, and perseverance are only a few of the many high quality character traits that Janette (Jan) Kohler would display on a daily basis. She went through more challenging situations than most people could imagine. Rheumatoid arthritis, cancer, and numerous surgeries for one thing or another could not bring down her spirit. She has always been there for her family and friends with a kind word of encouragement and a smile that would lift you up above the daily grind. When asked about how she was able to work through the difficulties of life with such a smile and a can-do attitude, she had one answer: big faith!

Jan's career was spent owning and running a State Farm Agency in Stuart, FL. She was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Chestertown, MD. Jan loved spending time with her family, made visits and talks with them a priority

every day, and was always the driving force to bring everyone together. She found joy in playing with her grandkids; going on drives and taking road trips with Dan; organizing family vacations; cooking meals; spending time at the beach; going on the boat; playing with her dogs; sewing; gardening; spending time in prayer; attending church; reading the newspaper; playing piano; playing board games; making everyone laugh; and coming up with nicknames (many loved to call her by her nickname Juana).

The truth is that when looking back on what she did every day, it is unbelievable how Jan spent so much of her daily life simply helping others.

She is survived by her husband, Daniel (Dan) Kohler; son, Daniel (Danny) R. Kohler; daughter, Katherine (Katie) Kohler; daughter-in-law, Lindsay Kohler; granddaughters, Cassidy (Cassie) Kohler and Danielle Kohler; mother, Delores (Dee) Merriman; brother, Russell (Russ) Merriman; niece, Victoria Merriman; and nephew, Matthew Merriman.

No matter where she went or what she did she touched the peoples' lives with something that truly cannot be described. Every individual that she has known has come away as a better person with a sense of gratitude for having known her. It is sad that no one else will have the opportunity to experience the beauty that Jan brought to this world. We will always have a piece of her in our heart that we can carry with us so that in times of difficulty we can call on her to lift us up above the drudgery. Life can be tough and Jan knew how to make it better.

Even though she is no longer with us we should be thankful that a human like her existed. She loved everyone and would give herself to the people around her. No matter how big or small of a problem you had you could talk to her, and she would truly listen. Most people are so concerned about their own issues that they cannot fully give themselves to others. Jan could give herself to you completely. Her love and dedication to the people around her made you

feel special. In times of crisis it was amazing to have a person like Jan in your life. You could call on her no matter the circumstances, and you would be loved. If more people in this world could live like Jan we would be in a better place.

Her soul will live on in all of us, and we should all strive to live a little like Jan did. We should all put love and empathy above all else. We should be there for one another and offer just a small piece of ourselves to one another. If we can spend more time loving and caring for one another then Jan would be happy. She wants us to be happy and to stay positive. Thank you Jan for always putting us first. We love you and we miss you!

The family is asking that any remembrances of Jan be sent to Lutheran World Relief (www.lwr.org).

If you would like to share some words, photos, videos, or anything else to celebrate the life of Jan, please add them here.

Services are being held privately.

Cemetery Details

Private

Tribute Wall



“ *Janette Kohler*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ *Janette Kohler*

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ *Janette Kohler*

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ *Mrs. Janette Kohler sounds like a truly inspirational and beautiful person. While I didn't know her, I know her beautiful and kind daughter, Katie. My thoughts are with you and your family, my friend.*

Elaine MacDougall - July 22, 2020 at 06:03 PM



“ *Every moment with Jan was my favorite moment- but this was particularly sacred for me. Sharing communion on my wedding day. Rest In Peace good and faithful servant Juana. We love you and miss you.*



Natalie Emberger - July 15, 2020 at 05:35 PM

MT

“ Jan could light up the darkest corner with her smile and love. What a blessing to have been able to spend these past few years as her friend and I treasure each moment, each hug, each moment of laughter. Just to be able to spend quiet moments with her and share our faith could fill my heart with peace. I treasure each minute and feel blessed to have known her. She will always be with us. It reminds me of the Sunday School song "This Little Light of Mine".....hide it under a bushel "NO", I'm going to let it shine....
And she did. Dan my sincere sympathy to you and the family, especially Katie and your son, Jan will be missed so very much.
Marge Tine



Marge Tine - July 14, 2020 at 06:36 PM

KI

“ Kim lit a candle in memory of Janette Kohler



Kim - July 14, 2020 at 07:16 AM



“ Una gran persona , gran madre que nos has dejado dos hijos maravillosos que seguirán sus Pasos. Un fuerte abrazo Esther.

Esther Martinez Laorden - July 10, 2020 at 08:31 PM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Janette Kohler.*



July 10, 2020 at 04:35 PM



“ *As a fellow newcomer to the Eastern Shore (less than 350 year-ha,ha,ha), Jan welcomed me into her fold. Jan has been a kindred spirit, inspiration and confidant. Jan, I miss your zeal for life, your wisdom, your kindness and, most of all our laughter! I am fortunate to have had these brief and shining moments in friendship. I have no doubt that you are soaring in the universe. Godspeed my friend.*
Debbie Murray

Debbie - July 09, 2020 at 06:35 PM



No doubt, Jan's spirit will linger with me. The courage she displayed in life was beyond admirable, and her strength is proof of what we can be. We talked about starting a writing group in Great Oak. I will miss you and miss getting to know you more. God bless, and peace to the family. *Barbara Harbeson*

Barbara Harbeson - July 11, 2020 at 06:19 PM



“ *Jan is my cousin. When we were little we used to play together. I remember one time when we went to the playground and brought back dandelions for Aunt Dee (her mom).*
Cheryl Dermody (nee Getzinger)

Cheryl Dermody - July 09, 2020 at 04:40 PM

WW

“ Magnificent friend to know...the woodall family

William woodall - July 09, 2020 at 12:28 PM

SC

“ She is truly missed, and will always be remembered for her compassion for others, and her willingness to share her experience, strength and hope with her family at the ESAC.

Susan Collins - July 09, 2020 at 12:57 AM

RG

“ The first time I saw Janette was when she was one week old. My Aunt Delores brought her by the farm near Moses Lake. The last time I saw her was in Stuart FL. in 2002 or 3. I tried to contact act her on her birthdays. My last contact was by phone when she told me her mother had been injured.
Even though I saw her rarely, every visit was something to treasure. When I was little her mother, Aunt Delores was my babysitter during school vacations.
God bless my aunt and all of Jan's family and friends.

Her cousin Ray Getzinger

Raymond E Getzinger - July 09, 2020 at 12:27 AM



“ Patricia Kohler sent a virtual gift in memory of Janette Kohler



Patricia Kohler - July 08, 2020 at 08:25 PM



Jan was always ready to have a good time with family. Whether it was Sheila's balloon flight or Danny's wedding in Colorado or the Thanksgiving celebration of Sheila and Bob's 50th anniversary at our house she was up for whatever we could arrange. Wish we could have all celebrated Aunt Pat's hundredth birthday in Canada this year. Jan fought through pain to attend all these events and we are appreciative that her suffering is now at an end.

Patricia Kohler - July 08, 2020 at 08:32 PM

LC

“ *I am saddened to see this news. Although not a close personal friend of Jan and Dan's (and Katie) - they were one of my favorites. I had the pleasure of meeting them and being their realtor when they bought their home in Chestertown. I had just been diagnosed with RA and Jan was so good to me, a friend and empathetic ear. She was pure joy, and there was something about Dan that allowed me to walk in, sit down and just talk. She was a bright light to everyone around her. Dan, Katie and Families, I'm so sorry for such a big loss, I will always hold that smile in my heart. Fondly, Lane Chaisson*

lane chaisson - July 08, 2020 at 07:15 PM

PA

“ *So sorry to hear of Jan's passing. She was a wonderful friend and fellow mom for years in Stuart as our kids grew up together. I'll always remember her smile fondly. Prayers for Dan, Dannie and family, and Katie ❤️*
Paulette Beurrier

Paulette - July 08, 2020 at 04:57 PM

NS

“ I know Jan will be truly missed, but her presence will always last in the hearts and thoughts of those whose lives she deeply touched with love. She has been like a second and loving mother to my daughter Becky. Visits to Jan, Katie, and Dan have been among the cherished highlights of Becky's life. We hope for healing and comfort to Jan's entire family.

Norman Sarachek - July 08, 2020 at 04:35 PM

JL

“ I am so sad that I didn't get to see you again in this lifetime! You were one of my favorite cousins!

joan bischoff lanning - July 08, 2020 at 04:07 PM

MA

“ I remember Jan very well from Redeemer, Stuart, Florida days. Everything said in her obituary was totally right on. We often played tennis together in our days there and she was one who no matter what, she was always so cheerful and encouraging. We shared Jesus often. My husband was teacher to both Danny and Katie. We mourn with you, but we know beyond a shadow of a doubt, she is with her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Our prayers are with you, Dan, Danny, and Katie. God bless you all. Marilyn Frieling

Marilyn - July 08, 2020 at 02:47 PM

PS

“ Prayers and love to all of you ❤️ Jan always had a smile for everyone. May you find peace in knowing she is with our Lord. Until we meet again Jan.

Patty Sanders - July 08, 2020 at 02:17 PM

CC

“ *Genus Geniuses*



Collin Corbin - July 08, 2020 at 02:07 PM

DL

“ *Praying for you all during this time. I will always remember Jan helping us pack up for our move from Maryland. Her expertise was such that everything she packed up arrived safely. Always appreciated her warmth and positivity. Denise Less*

Denise Less - July 08, 2020 at 10:53 AM

SB

“ *I will miss you Mrs. Jan.....*



Stefanie Blyman - July 06, 2020 at 08:01 PM

NW

“ *Our deepest condolences.*



Nancy Wessel - July 06, 2020 at 02:31 PM

KL

“ *Katherine Langenfelder lit a candle in memory of Janette Kohler*



Katherine Langenfelder - July 06, 2020 at 11:56 AM