



Kathleen May Rife

February 28, 1946 - June 14, 2021

Kathleen May Rife of Lewes, DE Passed away on June 14, 2021. She was 75 years old.

Born on February 28, 1946, in Baltimore, MD, she was the daughter of William and Virginia (Shaw) McKean

Kathleen found joy in finding ways to decorate her home to make it welcoming and comfortable as well as caring for her succulent plants. She was always up for taking a trip and loved to travel. Often, she could be found playing slot machines on her ipad, but most of all she loved raising her children and grandchildren, the lights of her life.

Kathleen is survived by her husband of 55 years Eugene Rife; her children Tracy & Larry Rothang, Kristine Wheland, and Dave Rife; her grandchildren Samantha, Jake, Nick, Morgan and Saylor. In addition to her parents, she is predeceased by her sister Diane Bageant.

A memorial service will be held at Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral home in Chester, MD on Monday, June 21, 2021, at 11 AM.

Flowers may be received at the funeral home, and donations may be made in Kathleen's name to the SPCA to honor her love of animals.

For online tributes, please visit www.fhnfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 21. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

Fellows, Helfenbein, & Newnam Funeral Home, P.A.
106 Shamrock Road
Chester, MD 21619

Tribute Wall



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Webcast in memory of Kathleen May Rife*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - June 21, 2021 at 10:46 AM



“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Kathleen May Rife*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - June 17, 2021 at 02:15 PM

AW

*Such a beautiful life. Such beautiful memories. I will so miss my friend.
Anna Wright*

Anna Wright - June 17, 2021 at 05:50 PM



“ *Kathleen May Rife*

October 26, 2023 at 06:42 PM



“ Kathleen May Rife

January 28, 2023 at 12:44 PM



“ Kathleen May Rife

January 28, 2023 at 08:03 AM



“ Where do I start. Met Kathy 1st day of 7th grade at Arbutus Junior High. Lots of adventures thru to senior high graduation and beyond. Spend time with she and Gene and your face hurt from laughing so hard. I would view her as "Lucille Ball" and Gene her straight man. Ken and I took a unforgettable trip with Kathy and Gene, picking Gene up at the gates of Camp Lejeune, upon his discharge from the Marines and heading to Florida. Purchased some property in the swamp, ran over Gene's favorite marine cigarette lighter while riding motor bikes on the beach. I could go on but it would just take to long. Oh and our stay up all night crabbing adventures. All our thoughts and prayers go out to Gene and the family. The world lost a ray of sunshine with Kathy's passing. Lots of love, Sue and Ken Koller

Susan Koller - June 18, 2021 at 11:37 AM



“ Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Kathleen May Rife.



June 18, 2021 at 11:16 AM

TB

“ *The Bowman's purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kathleen May Rife.*



The Bowman's - June 18, 2021 at 10:09 AM

TB

“ *The Lunch Bunch purchased the Gracious Lavender Basket for the family of Kathleen May Rife.*



The Lunch Bunch - June 17, 2021 at 05:51 PM



“ *Sentimental Dreams was purchased for the family of Kathleen May Rife.*



June 17, 2021 at 09:27 AM

GJ

“ We have been friends with Kathy and Gene for 45 years . They are like family to us and her passing is heartbreaking. Kathy was always the one to bring laughter when we were down, shed tears with us if she needed to and make us laugh so hard at her stories that we still laugh when we remember them. Nothing was more important to her than Gene and her family. They were her life. Her antics with Wilbur the pig and her smiles when Chewy was around were precious. Only Kathy would hug and cuddle a baby pig. But let's not forget the peacocks she cared for and who knows what other strays she took in. She was so loving and funny and a pleasure to be around. She was a wonderful wife, mother and grandmother. She will be missed.
Love John and Ginny

Ginny & John - June 16, 2021 at 08:15 PM

DR

“ Kathy and I met in the 7th grade. We shared the same bus stop to go to High School. We often sat together on the bus and when graduation came we went to Ocean City a few days after graduation on the Greyhound bus. What a trip
We both got so sunburned, but did not let it spoil our grown up girl trip.. I will never forget when I married my high school sweetheart she came to see our new apartment and went to the house across the street by accident. We had a good laugh about it afterward. We did not see each other often as she moved to Kent island , but just recently I found some letters that I wrote my high school sweetheart (my husband of 54 yrs) and was telling him of our Ocean City graduation trip.. Such fond memories of you Kathy.
Sincere Sympathy Gene to you and your family. RIP Kass.
Love Dottie Arnold Rouse

Dorothy Rouse - June 16, 2021 at 06:39 PM

AW

“ *Gene and Family,*

You know how sorry we are for you and your family. Kathy was a delight to be with. She always made us laugh on all our occasions, whether it was Lunch Bunch couples or just the girls. We will always remember our great times together, and there were many.

May your fond memories help comfort you and your family.

Kathy will always be in our hearts.

Love,

Anna and Tom

anna Wright - June 16, 2021 at 11:39 AM