



Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt

November 13, 1942 - February 12, 2024

Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt, of Easton, beloved wife, sister, aunt, and friend, passed away on Monday, February 12, 2024, surrounded by her family. She was 81.

Born to the late Henry A. Schlotzhauer and Clara Neal, Rita was born in Easton, where she lived her entire life. A 1960 graduate of Easton High School, she married the love of her life, Martin “Buzz” Petitt, Jr., on February 1, 1964. They were married until his death on May 6, 1986.

After graduation, Rita went to work at the Star Democrat and Bayshore Foods before working in the real estate offices of Bud Wood Realty. It was here that Rita discovered her love of real estate. She and Buzz eventually opened Petitt Realty, opening an office on Goldsborough Street. Even after Buzz’s passing, Rita continued to be a determined businesswoman and eventually transitioned from being a realtor to expanding her business into Petitt Enterprises. Rita owned and managed over two dozen rental properties in the Easton/Talbot County area and continued to run the day-to-day activities of her company up until a few months before her passing.

Rita enjoyed everything about living on the Eastern Shore and had an eye for photography, using her love of waterfowl to become an exhibitor at Easton’s Waterfowl Festival for a number of years. She and Buzz had an aviary at their home on Landing Neck Road, where many of the subjects of her photography were raised. Like her brothers, she had a fondness for horses and enjoyed going to rodeos and trail rides with her brother, Kenny. Rita could be seen throughout town every day, often running to places like the Neighborhood Service Center so she could deliver food to her tenants who needed it. Rita also loved her family deeply and was a devoted daughter, sister, aunt, and friend to all who knew and loved her. Her generous nature was evident to anyone who knew her.

In addition to her husband and parents, Rita is predeceased by her older brothers, William “Bill” Schlotzhauer and Edward “Eddie” Schlotzhauer. She is survived by her beloved

brother, Kenny Schlotzhauer, and his wife Nadia, of Easton, a special Goddaughter and niece Kathy (Billy) Moore of Cordova; brother Phillip and his wife Debbie of Beaufort, S.C.; several nieces, Karen (Kevin) Brown, Kristy (Kevin) George, all of Easton; Angie (Kurt) Kruse of San Antonio, Texas, and Terry Perry of Dunnellon, Fl. She is also survived by her nephew Phillip Schlotzhauer Jr. and his wife Christine, also of Beaufort. In addition to her brothers, nieces, and nephews, she is survived by a number of great nieces and nephews; Danielle (Jason) Toth of Ridgely, Noelle (Brett) Harris of Havelock, N.C., Jackie and Abby Roper of San Antonio, Tanner Perry of Dunnellon, Noah and Nathan George of Easton. She is also survived by great-great nieces Emerson and Camryn Toth of Ridgely, Lainey Harris of Havelock, and Aubrey Mae Perry of Dunnellon. and a great-great nephew, Bentley Harris, of Havelock. She also leaves behind her beloved canine companion, Blu.

A gathering will take place at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Cordova, MD from 1-3pm on Saturday, February 24, 2024. Following the gathering, there will be a memorial service starting at 3pm.

In lieu of flowers, donations in her memory can be made to Talbot Humane or the Neighborhood Service Center.

Previous Events

Gathering

FEB 24. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
12095 Blades Road
Cordova, MD 21625

Memorial Service

FEB 24. 3:00 PM (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
12095 Blades Road
Cordova, MD 21625

Graveside Service

FEB 24 (ET)

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Cemetery
12095 Blades Road
Cordova, MD 21625

Tribute Wall



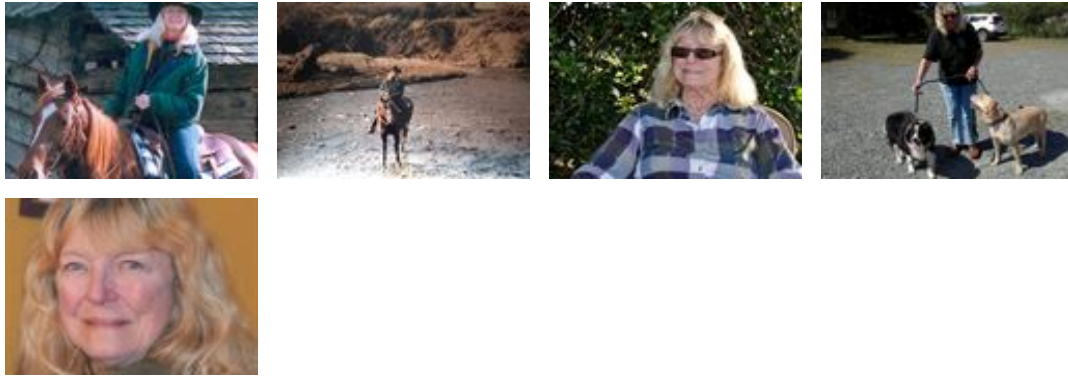
“ *Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 04, 2024 at 09:06 AM



“ *114 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Fellows, Helfenbein & Newnam Funeral Home - March 04, 2024 at 02:26 PM

EM

“ *Emily Meintzer lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt*



Emily Meintzer - March 02, 2024 at 11:23 AM

AL

“ *Our condolences to the family. Miss Rita was such a nice lady, she will be missed. Annetta and Eugene Lewis*



Annetta Lewis - February 24, 2024 at 10:51 AM

SW

“ *Much love and comfort for the family. She was a very sweet lady.*
Nat and Sandy



Sandy Walton - February 23, 2024 at 02:26 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt.*



February 22, 2024 at 02:34 PM

TL

“ *Trudy Leager lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt*



Trudy Leager - February 22, 2024 at 09:33 AM

AB

“ *Agnes Swartz Blades lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt*



Agnes Swartz Blades - February 20, 2024 at 09:56 PM

BW

“ *Your Family are in my Thoughts and Prayers. Cherish the memories, she will be forever in your hearts!*

Bonnie Wootets - February 20, 2024 at 08:56 PM

MR

“ Mike and I send our thoughts and prayers to Kenny, Nadia and the family.



MikeandMarilou Russ - February 19, 2024 at 09:25 PM

JS

“ Her charity will be missed.

James Shepard - February 18, 2024 at 05:04 PM

DH

“ Dorothy Hobbs Hollingsworth lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt



dorothy hobbs hollingsworth - February 18, 2024 at 01:05 PM

VB

“ Vickie Bildstein lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt



Vickie Bildstein - February 17, 2024 at 10:45 PM

LP

“ Lindsay Plugge lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt



Lindsay Plugge - February 17, 2024 at 10:08 PM

KM

“ *Kathy & Billy Moore lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt*



kathy & Billy Moore - February 17, 2024 at 08:55 PM

PF

“ *Our deepest condolences to Rita's loved ones. You are in our thoughts and prayers.*

Ed and Penny

Penny Finkner - February 17, 2024 at 11:14 AM

SH

“ *Sonja Hanssen-Carter lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt*



Sonja Hanssen-Carter - February 16, 2024 at 12:58 PM

JS

“ *June Shortall lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt*



June Shortall - February 16, 2024 at 12:40 PM

DP

“ *Doug Pierson lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Petitt*



Doug Pierson - February 16, 2024 at 09:52 AM

MR

“ Rita was truly a gem! One of the kindest people I have ever known. I rented from her, living right above her for a year. She was always attentive and kind to me and my kids. She will truly be missed. Prayers to all of you.

Michele Foard Rue - February 16, 2024 at 09:37 AM

MR

“ Michele Foard Rue lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt



Michele Foard Rue - February 16, 2024 at 09:36 AM

DC

“ Dawn Coleman lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettitt



Dawn Coleman - February 16, 2024 at 05:27 AM

DC

She kept a roof over so many who had limited resources. A staple of the community.

Dawn Coleman - February 16, 2024 at 05:29 AM

KO

“ My sincere condolences and prayers to the family



kathie Ostrowski - February 15, 2024 at 07:43 PM

SJ

“ Rip Rita you will be missed by many



Sol James - February 15, 2024 at 02:52 PM



“ *Tim & Laura Bishop lit a candle in memory of Rita Schlotzhauer Pettit*



Tim & Laura Bishop - February 15, 2024 at 02:26 PM



What a great loss for the Talbot County Community. She will be missed.

Tim & Laura Bishop - February 15, 2024 at 02:27 PM

JN

We had so many laughs together, will miss her deeply.

Jackie Naylor - February 20, 2024 at 01:24 PM