

# KATHERINE (KAY) LOUISE BAYLY



Of Pittsburgh, PA, died peacefully on January 1, 2024, at age 96. Kay was a compassionate, interesting person of remarkable faith. Her spirit, integrity, and deep sense of justice will be deeply missed but remain fiercely in our hearts.

Kay was born in Canton, OH in 1927 and her family moved to the Pittsburgh area as a young girl. As a young woman she worked for the Bell Telephone Company as a long-distance telephone operator, helping spouses or family locate their loved ones during World War II. She retired as a realtor for Northwood Realty, where her enthusiasm for people made her a natural success.

As a devout Catholic, Kay was a CCD religion teacher and a member or officer of several faith-based activities for both St. Ferdinand in Cranberry Township and St. Athanasius in West View. Notably, this included the Catholic Daughters of America and the Christian Mothers Society.

YMCA square dances were popular at North Park, and this is where Kay met her husband Joe on the Feast of the Guardian Angels. Joe and Kay celebrated over 60 years of marriage, which included several cherished anniversary celebrations. Together they raised five children with religion, Scouting, community values and an ingrained sense of ethics that formed the bedrock of their life together.

Books were Kay Bayly's great love; she collected and shared them throughout her entire life and "Bibliophile" is her defining characteristic. Also a cruciverbalist, Kay loved the daily New York Times crossword puzzles and loved putting together jigsaw puzzles. She excelled at Scrabble, and the letters K-A-Y represent a "Perfect Ten" in points. Long after the internet was invented, Kay continued to call the library research desk to challenge words and, to her opponent's chagrin, was almost always right.

Young at heart even into her 90s, she delighted her grandchildren with wisdom and witty retorts. Loving holidays and birthdays, Kay's creative flair made special occasions fun for all; her award-winning Halloween costumes are among family lore.

"Yes" was Kay's response to anyone in need of support; she spent her life caring for family and friends. She was the ultimate volunteer for Boy Scout and Girl Scouts activities, church bazaars, school, and community events. She was famous for her baking; she and her children were featured in "Cook of the Week" articles to showcase some of her favorite recipes.

She was predeceased by parents, Theresa and Felix Miller; in-laws Martin Joseph Bayly, Sr. and Annette Fisher Bayly; brothers, Richard Miller and Joseph Miller; husband, Martin Joseph Bayly, Jr.; son-in-law, Doug Wiley; granddaughter, Nicole Wiley. Kay is survived by five children, Mary (Craig) Skevington of Saratoga Springs, NY; Bonnie Bayly of Pensacola, FL, Joy Wiley of Scottsdale, AZ, Gregory Bayly of Pittsburgh, PA and Carol O'Keefe of West Hartford, CT. Cherished grandchildren include, Christina Skevington of Catskill, NY (Luke Ippoliti, fiancé); Melissa Skevington (Phil Rha) of San Francisco and Jennifer Skevington (Pablo Amado Sánchez Iglesias) of Barcelona, Spain, Daniel O'Keefe of Meriden, CT, and Shannon O'Keefe of West Hartford, CT.

Relatives and friends may call at the **SHELLHAAS FUNERAL HOME**, 388 Center Avenue, West View, PA 15229 from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM on Friday, January 5. The Mass of Christian Burial will be at Our Lady of Mount Carmel, St. Athanasius Church, 7 Chalfonte Avenue, West View at 10:00 AM Saturday, January 6. Following is the Committal Ceremony at the Christ Our Redeemer, North Side Cemetery, 204 Cemetery Lane, Pittsburgh, PA 15237. Celebration of Life Luncheon to immediately follow.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to The Vincentian Charitable Foundation, 8250 Babcock Boulevard, Pittsburgh PA 15237 or online at [www.VCFgives.org](http://www.VCFgives.org) in Memory of Katherine Bayly.

Please offer condolences at [www.schellhaasfh.com](http://www.schellhaasfh.com)

Send condolences [post-gazette.com/gb](http://post-gazette.com/gb)