

# KATHLEEN "KATHY" RUFFING BYERLY



Age 76, of Seven Fields, formerly of Knoxville, McCandless and Slippery Rock, passed away at UPMC Passavant Hospital on June 2, 2024, after a fall on vacation in Rostock, Germany, eight months prior.

Kathy was born in Pittsburgh on March 27, 1948, and was the daughter of the late Chuck and Rita Schmidt. Kathy was a graduate of St. George Catholic School in Knoxville,

class of 1966. Upon graduation, Kathy married her first husband, Larry Ruffing, also of Knoxville. Kathy worked for many insurance companies as an agent and broker and was bestowed with many honors as she worked her way up the ladder. Going to night school while working, Kathy completed her degree in Associate of Arts at Robert Morris College in 1978. In 1996, Kathy formed her own company called Argus Business Solutions with the logo that her company will keep a watchful eye on your business. During the summers, Kathy and Larry would help with Girl Scouts Adventures, taking a group of teenage girls on one or two week climbing and hiking trips to Colorado, Upper New York State and Jamaica.

After the death of her husband Larry in 2003, Kathy changed directions. Kathy's infectious and outgoing personality led her to help the hundreds and hundreds of friends that she met during her business career. She became a wedding planner, a travel planner, a tour guide and a caregiver for her friend's father in Arizona. She also staged houses for sale, sold houses (yes, she had a real estate license) and became a Mystery Shopper. She was involved in everybody's family whether you knew it or not. As a breast cancer survivor, Kathy was involved with the Susan B. Koman March for the Cure in Pittsburgh and the Avon three day walk in Washington, DC.

While experimenting in online dating, Kathy met the love of her life Wayne Byerly on Match.com. Kathy's handle was based on Michael Buble's song "Whenever it's right, you'll come out of nowhere and into my life". It was a Perfect Match everybody said. They married in 2013 at Cranberry Highlands Country Club. Since both Kathy and Wayne were adventuresome, they started traveling as a couple on group excursions, cruises and just venturing out on their own. Their favorite country was Switzerland. They visited 36 different Asian and European countries and 49 of the 50 states. In addition, they became "Snow Birds", traveling to Apache Junction, Arizona for five months every year. At the Golden Sun RV Park, they met many, many friends from all over the US and Canada. Kathy was involved in all the activities and taught Wayne all her dancing moves.

Kathy was just a wonderful, loving and kind person. It was said that her heart was larger than her body and everybody who knew her would agree. Kathy leaves behind her husband Wayne, her two stepsons Craig and Kevin Byerly, their wives Sandi and Blythe and Eleanor, age 9, her G-Ma.

Friends will be received for visitation on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, from 6-8 P.M., and Thursday, June 6, 2024, from 2-4 P.M. and 6-8 P.M. at the **BOYLAN-GLENN-KILDOO FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SVCS., INC.**, 130 Wisconsin Ave./ P.O. Box 2155, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066.

A Blessing Service will be held at 11 A.M. on Friday, June 7, 2024, at the funeral home with the Rev. Fr. Charles Bober, officiating. Immediately following the service she will be laid to rest at Allegheny County Memorial Park in Allison Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St George Preservation Society, PO Box 4228, Pittsburgh, PA 15203 or website [www.SGCPS.net](http://www.SGCPS.net).

Expressions of sympathy may be shared with the family at [www.boylanfuneralservices.com](http://www.boylanfuneralservices.com).

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