

JOHN "EDDIE" KENNEY



John "Eddie" Kenney, 76, of Pittsburgh, passed away February 12, 2025. Eddie was born September 2, 1948, in McKeesport, PA, to Edgar and Catherine (MacDermid) Kenney.

He graduated from Mt. Lebanon High School in 1966. He attended Kent State University, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1970, finishing via correspondence due to the infamous Kent State massacre, a rally which he attended. In 1972 and 1973, he completed graduate coursework at Penn State University until boredom overtook him, and he never submitted his final paper.

After school, Eddie headed west to Arizona, where he donned his short shorts and taught aerobics for many years while working at a state hospital and enjoying all the Southwest had to offer. Home was calling, though, so he returned to Pittsburgh and worked over 35 years for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as a Therapeutic Activities Services Worker. From working with children to running the greenhouse, he loved his job.

Despite his father's incessant inquiries, he never did settle down and get married. However, he personified the fun uncle to the children and grandchildren of his sister, Betty. He loved and supported his nieces and nephews and was always happy to brag about their endeavors.

Eddie loved good food, good sports competitions, good music, good company (sometimes), and good-looking men. He packed a lot in his years. He was a life-long and frequently disappointed Pittsburgh sports fanatic, having enjoyed many games in person and countless from his couch. He loved animals more than people and was never without pets, generally a cat or dog. In fact, many neighbors knew Eddie as the owner of his last dog, Bailey, who excitedly barked out the passenger seat window, every morning, the entire route from his house to the park. Perhaps his next great love was the love of pigs, leading him to amass a collection of pig merchandise and regalia numbering well into the thousands.

A talented and proud green thumb, Eddie enjoyed gardening and interior landscaping, often showcasing his abundant flora through grand gatherings and parties. He also enjoyed many years with a recreational bowling league and visits to Schenely Park. He'd occasionally appear in his finery as Hildie Rose Rottencrotch, alongside some of the best friends he could ask for. As the Princess of Beechview, Eddie kept court with jokers, clowns, princes, and an alarming number of queens. Eddie was also a fervent supporter of LGBTQ causes in Pittsburgh and beyond.

Eddie is survived by his sister, Elizabeth (Lester) Nace; his nephews and nieces, Kirk (Carlene) Nace, Kristi (Mike) Kuren, Kraig (Tonya) Nace, and Keri Nace; many great-nieces and nephews; cousins; and his amazing bonus family, including "The Babes," Tara and Renee Maddex; and longtime friend, Joe Briggs.

At Eddie's request, donations may be made to the Western PA Humane Society:

<https://humaneanimalrescue.org>

A memorial service and "pig party" will be held at the convenience of the family. Arrangements were entrusted to **PITTSBURGH CREMATION & FUNERAL CARE**, Robinson Township, PA.

<https://pittsburghcremation.com>



Send condolences post-gazette.com/gb