



Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe

January 25, 1920 - February 10, 2017

OBITUARY

Katherine A. McCabe

"Kay"

Beloved Mother, Grandmother and Great Grandmother

LOWELL—Katherine A. "Kay" (Neylon) McCabe passed away peacefully at her home, Friday morning, February 10, 2017. Kay had just recently celebrated her 97th birthday. She was the devoted wife of Patrick R. McCabe, Sr. who died on February 9, 2008.

Katherine was born in Lowell on January 25, 1920, one of five children born to Thomas F. and Catherine (McCarthy) Neylon. Kay was a graduate of the Sacred Heart Grammar School and Lowell High School, Class of 1938.

Kay married Patrick McCabe on June 12, 1943 at the Sacred Heart Church, and together they raised eight children and celebrated 64 years of marriage. Kay was a lifelong parishioner of the Sacred Heart Church, until its closing. She then became a communicant of St. Margaret Church.

The foundation of Kay's life was built on three principals: Family, Church, and Friends. Her large family was her purpose and her strength and she was deeply devoted to them. Her devout faith in God guided her life, and her many friends became "family" which she chose. Kay and Pat had a great group of friends that they made many fond memories with. "The Girls" were Kay's group of best friends that were ever present. As a group, they enjoyed countless excursions, but more importantly, they were always there when one of their own needed them.

Kay was a stay at home mother, raising her children and taking exceptional care of her husband Pat. Her house was always filled with love, and children. As her family grew, her house was filled with grandchildren, and later great grandchildren. Nana took care of many of them, and attended all of their sporting events, school shows, dance recitals, and graduations. She was blessed to be a part of their weddings and the births of 30 great grandchildren. She loved her grandchildren's spouses like her own.

Kay enjoyed being Irish. She loved her many trips to Ireland. Kay was never afraid to give you her honest opinion, and more often than not, you were wiser for the taking. She loved

Irish music and St. Patrick's Day Celebrations with her family. Kay loved a "Good Wake" in true Irish fashion, and would always send a meal for family events, in times of sorrow as well as celebration.

Kay and Pat enjoyed many years of family vacations at Seabrook Beach. When her family was grown, Kay worked in the kitchen of Johnny's Bench making lunches. Kay had her way of altering the menu during Lenten Fridays if the patron happened to be Catholic! Kay and her family and friends also enjoyed many, many wonderful meals at Good Thymes Restaurant. Kay was the Ambassador of Good Thymes.

For her children and her grandchildren, Nana was a nurturer, a provider, a teacher and a best friend and confidant. Her advice was valued. She knew what everybody needed, without ever having to ask her for it. Kay was very proud of the family she made and was always there to celebrate life's victories and wipe away the tears that life's struggles occasionally bring. Her legacy lives on in the lives of her children and grandchildren. The joy she brought will be a lasting memory, and, a gentle force to continue to do all of the things she taught all of us. A life important to others is a life well lived.

Mrs. McCabe is survived by her eight children and their spouses, Robert McCabe, L.F.D. Ret. and his wife Mary Ellen (Shine) McCabe of Chelmsford, Mary (McCabe) Gill and her husband Ed of Chelmsford, Kathleen (McCabe) McDonough and her husband Perry of Methuen, Deputy Chief Patrick R. McCabe, Jr., L.F.D. Ret. and his wife Janice (Cosma) McCabe of Lowell, Lieutenant Stephen McCabe, L.F.D. Ret. and his wife Kathleen (Deter) McCabe of Lowell, Thomas McCabe and his wife Patricia (Mahoney) McCabe of Chelmsford, Elisabeth (McCabe) Bullock and her husband Robert of Lakewood, Ohio, and Meghan (McCabe) Coughlin and her husband Patrick of Lowell; twenty five grandchildren, James McCabe and his wife Maura, Michael McCabe and his wife Kaitlyn, Ellen (McCabe) Geary and her husband Stephen, Andrew McCabe and his wife Erin, Mark Gill and his wife Jane, Mary Kate (Gill) Amos and her husband Scott, Brendan Gill and his wife Megan, Michael McDonough, Annie McDonough, Mary Beth McCabe and her husband Ryan Gilday, Amanda (McCabe) Gomez and her husband Oscar, Molly McCabe, Scott McCabe, Robert McCabe, Ryan McCabe and his wife Ashley, Joshua McCabe and his wife Mary, Kelsey (McCabe) Shibilina and her husband Daniel, Patrick McCabe, L.F.D., Thomas McCabe, Caeli McCabe, Phillip Bullock, Maren Bullock, Katy Coughlin, Maura Coughlin and Patrick Coughlin; 30 great grandchildren; her sister-in-law Mary Neylon, and her dear cousin Rita Kirwin; many nieces and nephews that all held special places in her heart, the Neylons, the McCabes, the Durkins the Phelps, the Gormans and the Foleys. Kay was the mother-in-law of the late Joanne (Boland) McCabe.

Kay was also the sister of the late Mary Gorman, Alice Phelps, Claire Durkin, Tom Neylon and sister-in law of the late John Gorman, Edward Phelps, Brendan Durkin, and Rev. Henry McCabe, OMI, Rev. Hugh McCabe, OMI, Edward I. and Katherine (Fay) McCabe, Terrence and Shirley McCabe, Francis and Mildred McCabe and Mary and James Foley.

FUNERAL NOTICE

McCABE—In Lowell, February 10, 2017 at her home, Katherine A. (Neylon) McCabe, 97, the beloved wife of the late Patrick R. McCabe, Sr. Family and friends may call at the FAY McCABE FUNERAL HOME, 105 MOORE STREET, LOWELL on TUESDAY from 3 until 8 PM. Mrs. McCabe's Funeral will begin on WEDNESDAY MORNING at 8:45 am from the Funeral Home, followed by her Funeral Mass at 10 o'clock at St. Margaret Church, 374 Stevens St. Lowell. Burial will follow in St. Patrick Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, Kay's family has asked that donations in her memory be made to St. Margaret Parish Renovation Fund, 374 Stevens St. Lowell, MA 01851 or to The Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF) 60 Walnut Street, Wellesley, MA 02481 (www.jdrf.org/newengland) or to The Sisters of St. Mary of Namur Memorial Fund, 241 Lafayette Ave, Buffalo, NY 14213.

ARRANGEMENTS BY

THE FAY McCABE FUNERAL DIRECTORS

978-459-9222 www.faymccabe.com

Cemetery Details

St. Patrick's Cemetery

1251 Gorham Street
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 458-8464
<http://www.stpatrickcemetery.com/>

Previous Events

Calling Hours

FEB **14**. 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Fay McCabe Funeral Home
105 Moore Street
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 459-9222
sean@faymccabe.com
<https://www.faymccabe.com>

Funeral Mass

FEB **15**. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Margaret's Church
374 Stevens St.
Lowell, MA 01851

Burial

FEB **15**. 11:30 AM (ET)

St. Patrick's Cemetery
1251 Gorham Street
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 458-8464
<http://www.stpatrickcemetery.com/>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe*

January 28, 2023 at 03:09 PM

AF

“ *Heartfelt condolences to the entire McCabe family. Everyone before me has said it best, the slightly wry smile, twinkly eyes and the time for all who crossed her threshold. When my brother Joseph was walking home from the bus stop as he returned from his long sojourn in California his first stop was to visit Kay and Pat. That was before he came home to Court St.! Now rest in peace Kay.*

Annmarie Finneral - March 22, 2017 at 02:30 PM

LA

“ *Lucille Asselin lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe*



Lucille Asselin - March 01, 2017 at 07:14 PM

PG

“ *Busiest mother on the block when I was growing up two doors away , was Kay McCabe ! She took the time to make me a memorable Boston Creme pie the year I skated down the railroad tracks hill and broke my leg , at twelve , 3 months in a cast was forever and her smiling face and twinkly eyes when she brought that pie sure made me feel better !*

Patricia FitzGerald Gardner - February 16, 2017 at 04:50 PM

MC

Thank you Patty!

Meghan Coughlin - February 21, 2017 at 11:21 AM

MN

“ Auntie Kay should have been the poster child for having kids continuously over 20+ years! She was always full of laughter and fun, and nothing ever fazed her. I'm sure she had seen it all by the time the youngest kids came along, so she just enjoyed having family and friends around. Whenever we'd stop by over on Manchester St she'd pull another chair up to the table, pour another cup of tea and chat away like she was thrilled to see you. My mother loved having her Tuesday afternoons with Kay these last several years and will miss her a lot. I'm sure she was so grateful for the way all the kids, grandkids, Francy, etc scheduled their time these last few years to make sure she was never alone. Beautiful family inspiration. Wish I could be there to celebrate her life the next couple of days. I'll be there in spirit. Love, Mo

Maureen Neylon - February 14, 2017 at 02:21 PM

MC

Thanks Mo!

Meghan Coughlin - February 21, 2017 at 11:21 AM

CR

“ Many fond memories of Mrs. McCabe, I will always love and miss her in my heart. My condolences to the entire McCabe family, she was a wonderful one of a kind lady.
Love Connie (Roy) Russo, and the entire Russo family.

Connie Russo - February 14, 2017 at 12:40 PM

TH

I am so sorry for your loss, I had the pleasure to know Kaye while my mom cared for her may she be at piece with her husband. She will truly be missed by many...

Tammy Hegarty - February 18, 2017 at 05:12 PM

JG

“ Many many fond memories of Aunt Kay as I was growing up. She was always so kind, understanding and never judgmental. She was cool before the term was even invented. I'm sure she is resting in peace.

Jack Gorman - February 14, 2017 at 09:25 AM

CO

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



catherine omalley - February 12, 2017 at 08:54 PM

CO

“ Aunt Kay - an inspiration as to how to live a meaningful life. 🍀 You did so beautifully! Cath Neylon O'Malley

catherine omalley - February 12, 2017 at 07:42 PM

MC

Thanks Cath!

Meghan Coughlin - February 21, 2017 at 11:22 AM

FR

“ I am very sorry for your loss. My thoughts and prayers are with your family.

Frank Rouine - February 12, 2017 at 07:08 PM

JL

“ Sending deepest sympathy to the entire McCabe family.
Janet Lawrence



janet lawrence - February 12, 2017 at 04:46 PM

SL

“ So sorry for the loss of a wonderful woman! My condolences to the entire McCabe family....Sue LaRoche

Sue LaRoche - February 12, 2017 at 02:55 PM

PB

Kay was one of the nicest women in our neighborhood !!! She was like a second mom to all of us on Manchester st . She was a lovely woman . My thoughts are with all the family .

Pamela Blanchette - February 16, 2017 at 05:43 PM

MC

Thank you Sue! You were such a great help and comfort when she was a D'Youville

Meghan Coughlin - February 21, 2017 at 11:23 AM

BS

“ *Wonderful Women--Wonderful Family--Kay you were the Sacred Heart Parish Through & Through--Whenever I saw you ,you always told me about events that were at the Parish back in the Day before it closed.. rest in peace. Billy Sheehan*

Billy Sheehan - February 12, 2017 at 09:39 AM

BW

“ *Barbara Whittaker lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe*



Barbara Whittaker - February 12, 2017 at 08:08 AM

 Dan Ahern

“ *A great family due in large part to this matriarch. Such a nice person, always with a kind word for me. Loved that she would always had to have her hair just so. Sorry for this great loss.*

Dan Ahern - February 12, 2017 at 07:35 AM

MC

Thanks Dan!

Meghan Coughlin - February 21, 2017 at 11:23 AM

MA

“ *So sorry for your loss, Pat and family. Your mom was a very sweet lady and I always enjoyed adding a shamrock/name to her sweatshirt whenever a new baby was born. I know she will be missed.*

David and Marianne Albrecht (formerly all Allsports Heroes Uniforms)

Marianne Albrecht - February 11, 2017 at 10:31 PM

GB

“ Gail Byrnes lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe



Gail Byrnes - February 11, 2017 at 07:55 PM

RG

“ My sympathies to the wonderful extended McCabe family

rita gallagher - February 11, 2017 at 07:51 PM

VB

“ Love to the whole family. You are all in our prayers

Valentina Burbank - February 11, 2017 at 07:07 PM

MP

“ I don't know that there could be a bigger gift given to your Mom than staying in her home until the day she was reunited with your Dad and the rest of the family.

Mary Phelps - February 11, 2017 at 06:19 PM

MG

Thank you Mary, that means more than you can know. My Mother loved you and the rest of the rest of the Neylon family very much .Nana and Grammy would be proud.

Mary McCabe Gill - February 11, 2017 at 08:27 PM

FG

“ Francy Gorman lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe



Francy Gorman - February 11, 2017 at 06:18 PM

SF

“ Sean & Erin Rourke And Family lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Katherine A. "Kay" McCabe



Sean & Erin Rourke and family - February 11, 2017 at 04:43 PM

JQ

Tom, Steve and family, Please accept my condolences.
Joe Quinlan

Joe Quinlan - February 13, 2017 at 07:08 PM



Dear Kathy, Sending my condolences on the death of your Mum. A beautiful write-up in the Lowell Sun. Your friend from LHS, '67, Barbara Howes

M Barbara Howes - February 14, 2017 at 12:13 PM

LJ

So sorry to hear about your mom's passing. So very happy to have known her. She was and will continue to be a great example to her extended family. Our prayers are with you.

Leighton Gendron Jr. - February 14, 2017 at 01:30 PM

CH

Your mother blessed so many people with her faith and kindness. Praying that you'll find comfort in your memories of her and in the knowledge that others are missing her, too. Our family is keeping your family in our thoughts and prayers.

Tommy Hickey (S.H.S. '66)

Corinne Hickey - February 14, 2017 at 06:16 PM

KK

So very sorry to hear the passing of this truly great Mother, she was an inspiration to everyone that was blessed to have known Kay. My memories of her at Sacred Heart will always be remember. She was a great lady, our condolences are with the McCabe Family at the passing of this gentle soul.

Joseph & Kathy Fagan Kirane

kathy kirane - February 15, 2017 at 08:43 AM

DB

Tom and Patty. Our thoughts are prayers are with you. God bless!

David and Lise Busby - February 26, 2017 at 05:07 PM