



Kathleen "Katie" (McCluskey) McElroy

MAR 1, 1957 - MAY 13, 2024



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Kathleen "Katie" (McCluskey) McElroy

MAR 1, 1957 - MAY 13, 2024

Kathleen "Katie" (McCluskey) McElroy died May 13, 2024 at home, surrounded by family and friends. The last days of her life were a stream of love, of family and many friends, all wanting to spend as much time with her as possible.

Her life was a love story.

A native of Queens, she was the third of eight children. Her father, a former Olympian runner, was famously frugal, often shopping for bargains (dented cans of "mystery vegetables" were common for dinner); and her mother was a gentle, devout Catholic. Katie embodied the best qualities of her parents.

She attended Catholic elementary and high schools in New York, and when it was time for college she was drawn to Le Moyne College, where she met the love of her life. As a sophomore, on the orientation team, she met Terence (Terry) McElroy during one of his first days at Le Moyne. Their friendship blossomed into a lifelong romance that never faltered.

Terry and Katie established themselves as a young couple initially in Syracuse, then in Liverpool and most recently built their dream home in a new housing development in Clay. They affectionately named their new neighborhood "The Love Boat," because of the friendly neighbors and vibrant social life.

Katie made friends wherever she went, and she kept them throughout her life.

She was devoted to her family. Katie and Terry raised two children, Dan, and Emily, with unwavering support and attention. Both are young professionals today, building their lives in the fashion they learned from their mom. Katie balanced motherhood with a career, always ensuring she was there for nearly every game and event in Dan and Emily's lives from their early years through college years.



Obituary

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She epitomized the working mother, raising her children with a loving, level head, managing to handle everything that came her way. She loved testing recipes from the newspaper and was known for not wasting a scrap of food. She was a great cook and loved to bake – her Christmas gingersnaps were a tradition that signified the start of the holiday season for friends and family.

Emily and her husband, Anthony had their first child – Katie's first grandchild – in January. Katie declared Madison Kate the most beautiful and smartest baby ever born. She knew all grandparents say that, but she also knew she was right this time. At just three months old, beautiful Madison told her grandma that she loved her. Yes, it was caught on video.

In addition to being a loving wife, devoted mother, a caring sibling to her seven brothers and sisters, and a great friend to many people, Katie built a successful business career. Her first jobs were in banking, and she eventually made her way to the Human Resources profession. She held leadership positions at O'Brien & Gere before being recruited in 2001 by The Post-Standard as an HR executive. She retired in 2021 as Advance Central Services Human Resources Director, overseeing HR activities for three media companies: Advance Media NY, MassLive.com and PA Media Company.

Unflappable, Katie was a go-to for many employees seeking her sound advice. Colleagues described her as the ultimate professional, caring, thoughtful, analytical, kind, and trustworthy.

Though her retirement was brief, Katie and Terry made the most of it, traveling between Florida, Charlotte, New York, Duxbury and Misquamicut to visit friends and family. They kept a full social calendar with friends. She joined the YMCA and actually used her membership. She squeezed in a trip to Europe to visit her sister, in Paris. She also found time to do volunteer work for the Le Moyne College Board of Regents, Employment Inclusion, Inc., and with 100 Women Who Care CNY.

Katie leaves behind a legacy of love and integrity to all whose lives she touched. We will deeply mourn her loss, though we know her spirit will live on in the hearts of those fortunate enough to have known her.

Katie is predeceased by her parents Joseph Sr. and Anne McCluskey; her step mother-in-law Gail McElroy; and her sister-in-law Mia McCluskey.



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Katie is survived by husband Terry, son Dan, daughter Emily Baker, son-in-law Anthony Baker, granddaughter Madison Kate; her seven siblings, Joseph McCluskey Jr. (Keith Montagna), Mary Cotard (Eric Dumas), James, Robert and Richard (Berna) McCluskey, Susan (Keith) Jaeger and Martin (Kathleen) McCluskey; mother-in-law Sally McElroy and father-in-law Jerry McElroy; sisters-in-law Carrie McElroy (Susan Salisbury) and Colleen (Robert) Regelsberger; and several nieces and nephews.

The family would like to thank the staff at Memorial Sloane Kettering Cancer Center, Hematology-Oncology Associates of CNY, Family Practice Associates, specifically Dr. Alexander Shoushtari, Dr. Stefania Morbidini, Dr. Brian Smith, and Dr. Beth Houck.

A funeral Mass in celebration of Kathleen's life will be held on Saturday, May 18, 2024, at 10:00 A.M. in Pope John XXIII Church, 8290 Soule Rd. Liverpool. She will be laid to rest in Our Lady of Peace Cemetery Mausoleum. Visitation will take place on Friday, May 17, 2024, from 4:00 – 7:00 P.M. at the THOMAS J. PIRRO JR. FUNERAL HOME 3401 Vickery Rd. (Corner of Buckley Rd.) N. Syracuse, NY 13212.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Le Moyne College at www.lemoyne.edu/give or to Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center at <http://mskcc.convio.net/goto/katiemcelroy>



Events


Kathleen "Katie" (McCluskey) McElroy

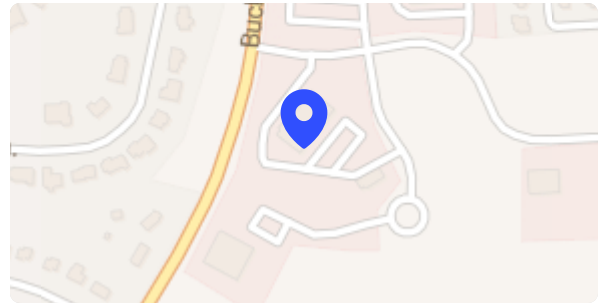
MAR 1, 1957 - MAY 13, 2024

Visitation

 **Friday**, May 17, 2024


 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM ET

 **Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home**
3401 Vickery Rd, Syracuse NY 13212

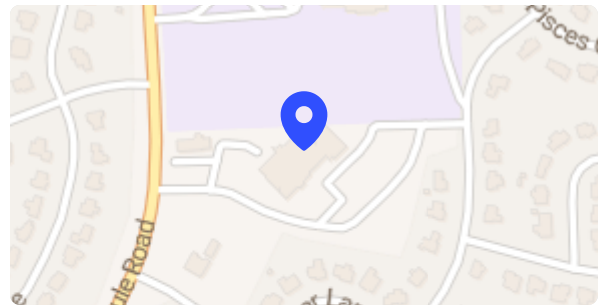


Funeral Mass

 **Saturday**, May 18, 2024


 10:00 AM ET

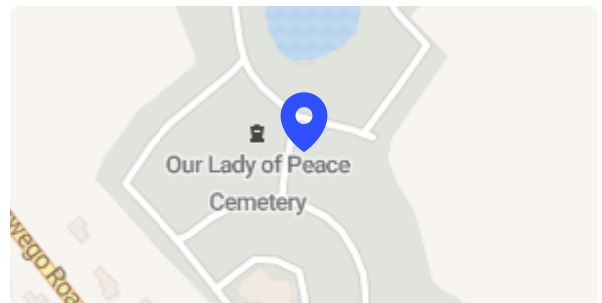
 **Pope John XXIII Church**
8290 Soule Road, Liverpool NY 13090



Cemetery Details

 **Our Lady of Peace Cemetery**
8668 OSWEGO ROAD, Baldwinsville NY 13027

 **315-475-4639**





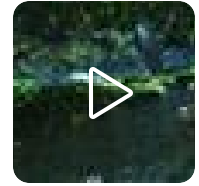
Tribute Wall

Kathleen "Katie" (McCluskey) McElroy

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a **Tribute Video**.



May 16 at 9:37 AM



Anne Annicharico posted:

I was interviewed by Katie at O'Brien & Gere. She was the sweetest even tempered person. Very caring and a true professional. God Soeed Katie! My condolences to her family. Anne Annicharico Charlotte NC

August 25 at 7:40 AM



Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home posted:

May 17 at 9:27 AM



Mike Cartini posted:

Terry and family I would like to extend my condolences to all of you on the loss of Katie. After reading about her I really wish I had the pleasure of meeting her! What a beautiful person she was. I hope your many wonderful memories comfort you now and in the future.

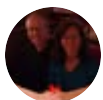
May 16 at 4:19 AM



Ray & Linda Bznach posted:

Terry and family we were so saddened to hear of the passing of Katie, our thoughts and prayers are with you all 🙏 Ray & Linda Banach

May 15 at 4:51 PM



Laurie Testa Azzoto posted:

We would like to express our condolences upon learning of Kate's passing. She was a lovely lady. Terry coached our son Ricky in soccer a long time ago. I would run into Kate occasionally over the years. Laurie, Rick & Ricky Azzoto

May 15 at 1:35 PM



Tribute Wall

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AK

Anne And Kevin Kelly sent a Beautiful in Blue to the McElroy family.

May 15 at 11:30 AM



TF

The Clark Family sent a Full Of Love Bouquet to the McElroy family.

May 15 at 8:18 AM



TF

The Clark Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Kathleen.

May 15 at 8:18 AM



BD

Bob Dana posted:

Terry, Claire and I were shocked to learn of Kathy's passing. Our sincere condolences to you and your family.

May 15 at 6:38 AM

KC

Karen Calabrese lit a candle in honor of Kathleen.

To the McElroy family, please know you are in my thoughts and prayers. I had the privilege of working with Kate at O'Brien and Gere. She was a caring, dedicated person and a friend to many. Her beautiful spirit will never be forgotten.

May 14 at 3:24 PM



MH

Maureen Russell Hewlings posted:

Terry & Family, So very heartbreaking. I want to say take comfort in the good memories, but I know the memories don't fill the empty seat next to you. Tim & I wish you all a lot of strength. My best memory of Katie is « very gracious & humble girl ».Much love...Tim & Mo

May 14 at 1:02 PM



Tribute Wall

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CS

Conrad Schneider posted:

My sincerest condolences Terry and family.

May 14 at 10:06 AM



Anonymous sent a Heavenly Heights Bouquet to the McElroy family.



May 14 at 9:36 AM

TI

Tim, Chris & Mo planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Kathleen.



May 14 at 9:36 AM

BM

Bridgette Montgomery-Matthews posted:

Soo very sorry to hear of Kate passing. She called me for an interview. She was always kind and helpful. She was the first person I met with in my 34-year journey with O'Brien & Gere Engineers, Inc. My sincere condolences to the entire family.

May 14 at 8:59 AM

LH

Love, Steve And Patti Hartmann sent a Peaceful White Lilies Basket to the McElroy family.



May 14 at 7:37 AM

LF

Larry Fisher posted:

Terry and Family. Our deepest condolences on your loss. Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers.Larry & Theresa Fisher

May 14 at 7:02 AM



Tribute Wall

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TF

Tom Sharkey, Jane Rode, Tom & Carol Fletcher planted a grove of 5 Memorial Trees in honor of Kathleen.

May 14 at 6:09 AM



TG

Todd Guard lit a candle in honor of Kathleen.

Prayers to Terry and his family! So very sorry for your loss. Todd Guard

May 14 at 5:49 AM



MF

Mary And The Naclerio Family sent a Sentiments of Serenity Spray to the McElroy family.

May 14 at 4:57 AM



MF

Mary And The Naclerio Family planted a Memorial Tree in honor of Kathleen.

May 14 at 4:57 AM



KS

Karen Sherwood posted:

Kate was so kind, caring and truly dedicated to the people she worked with, as I was one of them for her 20 years at The Post-Standard and Advance Media. She always went the extra mile to help with a question, request or need. I'm so sorry for your loss.

May 14 at 4:35 AM

SD

Sharon Dellinger posted:

Kate interviewed me at Advance Media and that interview began a career for the first time in my working life. She was kind and always helpful. She was the first person you saw in your journey with Advance Media and a true ambassador. Please accept my sincere condolences on her passing.

May 14 at 3:41 AM



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SM

Steve Mccall posted:

What an inspirational soul. Heartfelt condolences to your family.

May 14 at 2:42 AM

KM

Kathleen And Fred Mahardy posted:

Dear Terry, Dan Emily, Anthony and Madison, Please accept our sincerest prayers and deepest sympathies on Kate's passing. We were very blessed to have known Kate and to share her friendship. She will always be in our thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, Kathleen and Fred Mahardy (PS: we're gonna miss her cookies...just sayin')

May 14 at 1:15 AM

KK

Kenneth Klobus posted:

My deepest sympathies to Terry, Dan, Emily and Anthony, my thoughts and prayers are with you. Katie will always be remembered for her kindness and caring nature.

May 13 at 4:32 PM

IF

Isolved (Your Charlotte Fam) sent a Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet to the McElroy family.



May 13 at 2:09 PM



Media

Kathleen "Katie" (McCluskey) McElroy

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Thomas J. Pirro Jr. Funeral Home shared a Tribute Video.

May 16 at 9:37 AM



Linda Mann May 19 at 7:51 PM

I'm so sorry to hear of Mrs. McElroy's passing. May joyful memories bless you daily.
Fondly, Miss Linda Mann



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Kathleen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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