



Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak

April 15, 1936 - February 22, 2021

Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak, age 84, passed away peacefully at home on Monday, February 22, 2021, surrounded by her loving family. A lover of books, and an avid reader, Bucky's family is saddened to be closing this chapter, but they're also grateful to be part of the story she leaves behind. Born April 15, 1936 in Brooklyn, NY to Charles and Kathleen Small, she lived most of her life in Keansburg, NJ. She went on to marry the love of her life, John Kmak, in 1956, who she spent many happy years with until he passed away on Halloween in 1978. Together, they raised her four surviving children, Robin Hosey, John Kmak, Lisa Lacey, and Brian Kmak.

Bucky went on to have 7 grandchildren who adored her like no other, and 4 great-grandchildren whose photos she would show to anyone patient enough to wait for her to find them on her cell phone: Richelle Sheehan, Christopher Hosey, Scott Pillar, Samantha Hosey, Thomas Lacey, Emily Kmak, Braden Kmak, Charlotte Sheehan, Cora Sheehan, Claire Sheehan, and Harper Pillar. Often, they would argue over who was actually her favorite, but that's only because she always made each of them feel so individually special.

In addition to reading, Bucky loved the Mets, Giants, Jersey tomatoes, Hallmark movies, and the Game Show Network; but, most important to her was the time spent with her family and friends. She was often the life of the party and her feistiness and sarcasm served her well until her final days.

Aside from her devoted husband, John Kmak, Bucky was also predeceased by her parents, siblings, and many friends throughout her time. In addition to her children and grandchildren, she leaves behind their life-partners, spouses and family who she considered her own: Rich Hosey, Nicole Kmak, Jill Osterbye, Randy Gumpel, Tom Sheehan, Kay Hosey, Corinne Pillar, Melissa Lacey, Bethany, Hailey, and Colten; as well as many nieces and nephews, and her in-laws who became some of her best friends.

Family will receive friends and relatives on Tuesday, March 2, 2021, from 3-6 pm at Laurel Avenue Funeral Home in Hazlet, NJ. In memory of Bucky, we ask that you take a moment to hug your child, grandchild, or friend, as time waits for no one.

Previous Events

Memorial Gathering

MAR 2. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Laurel Funeral Home
201 Laurel Avenue
West Keansburg, NJ 07734

Tribute Wall



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.*



March 01, 2021 at 05:42 PM



“ *Elizabethk Kmak lit a candle in memory of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak*



Elizabethk Kmak - March 01, 2021 at 05:27 PM



“ *Bucky was my sister-in-law but also my good friend. We both married brothers and spent many many years together. Will always remember the good times we all had. Her and Johnny stood up for Rich and I when we were married. I could go on and on but we will miss her dearly. They are together now and sure very happy. Love you dear sister and will miss you always. Betty and Rich*

Elizabethk Kmak - March 01, 2021 at 05:26 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



March 01, 2021 at 02:40 PM



“ *Fairest of All* was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



March 01, 2021 at 02:37 PM



“ *Sentiments of Serenity Spray* was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



March 01, 2021 at 10:40 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray* was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



March 01, 2021 at 09:49 AM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



February 27, 2021 at 11:13 AM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



February 25, 2021 at 10:31 PM



“ Jones Family (Robert, Silvana, Gabriel & Nicholas purchased the Lavender Reflections Spray for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



Jones Family (Robert, Silvana, Gabriel & Nicholas - February 25, 2021 at 03:10 PM



“ Beautiful Dreams was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.



February 25, 2021 at 12:00 PM

RJ

“ I am saddened beyond words at the passing of my Dear Aunt Bucky. My countless fond memories of her go as far back as to when was able to retain all of those special moments in my mind. I remember practically every house that Aunt Bucky and the family lived in and both of our families actually lived in the same house on 7 St. Peters Ave at different times in our lives. Aunt Bucky and my mom were best of friends, both born and raised in Brooklyn, and their close 'friends-for-ever' bond brought our two families together. We shared the happiest moments of our lives with one another and we also supported one another through life's challenges and saddest moments. Aunt Bucky was feisty in a friendly way, she didn't mince words and you always knew where you stood with her-- we all loved and respected her for that. Aunt Bucky had a heart of gold and her love, pride and devotion to her husband, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren knew no bounds. She would go to the ends of the earth for her family and friends. Even though Aunt Bucky had to leave us here on earth, she hasn't left us completely. Our many wonderful and loving memories of her are with us forever to cherish and to bring smiles to our faces. I will miss my Aunt Bucky immensely. And when I do, I can just reach into my catalog of all those wonderful and loving memories and bring her back to me whenever I want to.

Our most heartfelt condolences to the family during this very difficult time.

Robert, Silvana, Gabriel and Nicholas

Robert Jones - February 25, 2021 at 11:39 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak.*



February 24, 2021 at 01:27 PM



“ *I grow up with the family and she was great lady . Sorry for the loss*

fran cervasi - February 23, 2021 at 09:22 PM



“ *Mae Pfeiffer lit a candle in memory of Kathleen "Bucky" Kmak*



Mae Pfeiffer - February 23, 2021 at 06:41 PM



“ *I don't think I'll ever forget Bucky or John. I knew them in high school and for a few years after. I then moved away to PA and drifted away. I'm in Jersey again and I feel so badly that I didn't get to see her again before yesterday. I remember her driving in a blinding snow storm with her mom, Helen and Me. We went to the hospital to see new born baby of Flo and John's.....the ride home was horrendous...one I'm sure she never forgot. I remember their wedding day and I remember her little girl, Robin, who was the same age as my little girl. I have many other fond memories too which I will hold dear in my heart.*

Mae Pfeiffer - February 23, 2021 at 06:36 PM

JH

“ I remember as a very little girl how excited I was to attend my very first wedding when my cousin Johnny married Bucky! But Bucky was always part of my family as long as I could remember! Marriage just made it official I guess!! I loved when she would come visit us in the city and bring her records and along with my cousin Diane would dance up a storm in our little living room! My sister, Maggie, would laugh so hard at them that she would fall over with joy..while Bucky always has kind words and smiles for me, she was especially loving and kind to my handicapped sister Maggie! How I loved when Bucky and Johnny would bring their sweet little ones to visit! While we haven't seen each other in many years now and some of the extended family I've never met, I want you all to know that my heartbreaks for each of you at your loss because I know what a wonderful person you have lost but I also know that you have a treasure trove of memories that will keep her spirit alive for you always! God bless you all with His Peace! Love and prayers Your cousin, Jackie Carney Horn.

jackie carney horn - February 23, 2021 at 05:11 PM