



Carolyn Cummings

April 20, 1939 - August 27, 2024

Carolyn Mae “Carol” Cummings passed away peacefully at Stormont Vail Hospital in Topeka on August 27, 2024, at the age of 85.

Carol was born to Leo Earl and Bernadine Marie Manley Connor on April 20, 1939, in Kansas City MO. Carol was the middle child of five Connor daughters. She attended St. Peter’s Grade School and Bishop Ward High School in Kansas City KS before the family moved to Topeka. She completed her education as a Hayden High School graduate in 1957.

On April 20, 1963, Carol married Gordon Ray Cummings, the love of her life, at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. They welcomed a son, Robert Leo Cummings in 1967. A second son, Patrick Connor Cummings, arrived in 1973. Patrick passed away a short four years later, due to congenital heart defects.

In January 1979, in conjunction with friends Webb and Jeanette Isley, Carol and Gordon co-founded the Topeka chapter of The Compassionate Friends. TCF is an international mutual assistance, self-help organization that offers support and understanding to bereaved parents and families. They have long since passed on leadership of the Topeka chapter, and it continues to provide support to grieving families today.

Carol worked as an administrative assistant for her brother-in-law, G. Barney Byard, CLU, AAGG with New York Life Insurance for 37 years. She was also very active at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church, serving as a eucharistic minister and wedding assistant/coordinator. Carol was a jigsaw puzzle aficionado and loved cheering on the Kansas Jayhawks and Kansas City Chiefs.

Carol is survived by her son, Robert "Robb" Cummings; sisters, Pat Pound and Jeanne Johnson (Larry); and many cousins, nieces, and nephews. She was preceded in death by her son, Patrick, her husband, Gordon, and her sisters, Joanne Connor and Mary Dean Byard.

Rosary will be prayed at 5 p.m. Tuesday, September 3, at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614, where visitation will follow until 7 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Wednesday, September 4 at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church, 3601 SW 17th Street, Topeka KS 66604. Burial will be in Mount Calvary Cemetery.

Carol's Funeral Mass will be live-streamed on the funeral home's Facebook page, you can follow this link. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063672125244>

Memorial contributions may be made to The Compassionate Friends (payable to Topeka TCF Chapter) or to Midland Care and sent in care of the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent online to www.kevinbrennanfamily.com.

Previous Events

Rosary

SEP 3. 5:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Visitation

SEP 3. 5:30 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home
2801 SW Urish Road
Topeka, KS 66614
(785) 272-7888
info@kevinbrennanfamily.com

Mass of Christian Burial

SEP 4. 10:00 AM (CT)

Most Pure Heart of Mary Church
3601 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Carolyn Cummings*



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - August 30, 2024 at 06:40 PM

JD

“ *Rob and family, our sympathy on the loss of you very special mother. Wishing you peace and strength. Joyce DeCoursey and family,*

joyce DeCoursey - September 05, 2024 at 01:24 PM

BR

“ *Robb, so sorry to hear of your Mother's passing. I worked with your Dad several years in the Passenger Traffic Department at Santa Fe and remember when your parents were married and you were born. Deepest sympathy to you and your family. Bob Remington*

Bob Remington - September 03, 2024 at 05:06 PM

LC

“ *Robb and Family,
I am so sorry for your loss. Carol was absolutely the sweetest, with a tiny tiny touch of spice. She was always so welcoming to us every time we saw her. She made it a point to talk to us, and not just say hello. She will be dearly missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all.*

Love, Chance and Laura Cox

Laura L Cox - September 03, 2024 at 11:28 AM

PM

“ *Robb, I am so sorry to learn of your Mom's passing. What a blessing that she was able to spend 85 years with her family. She was a beautiful soul inside and out. Please know you are in my prayers during this difficult time. Love you bunches.
Peggi Moore*

Peggi Moore - September 03, 2024 at 10:07 AM

BP

“ *Robb, your mom was always vey special to me. I admired her spunk! The challenges she faced over the years never extinguished her sense of humor. Even though we lived far apart and didn't see each other often, I always felt close to her. I am so sad that Dave and I can't attend the memorial service and funeral. He has an important doctor's appointment on Wednesday. But I will be there in spirit!*

Barbara Powell - September 01, 2024 at 03:22 PM



“ *Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Carolyn Cummings.*



August 31, 2024 at 12:08 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Carolyn Cummings.*



August 30, 2024 at 12:59 PM



“ *Don Marr planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carolyn Cummings.*

Don Marr - August 30, 2024 at 12:59 PM



“ *Ruben and I have known Carol for many years but we really got to know her when we served in the Homebound Ministry through Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church. She loved to talk about KU basketball!!! On Sundays when we would take her the Holy Eucharist we always allowed more time especially during the basketball season. She loved the KU Jayhawks. Liked rehashing the game with anyone who had watched the game. She always had a smile on her face and greeted us so warmly. We will miss her❤️. She and her husband made a difference in the Topeka community.*

Stephanie and Ruben Perez - August 30, 2024 at 12:13 PM

AC

“ Robb, please accept my sympathies on the death of your mother. Wishing you and family peace and comfort during this time.

Adam Crouch

Adam Crouch - August 30, 2024 at 11:29 AM

LM

“ Robb I'm so sorry to hear of your mother's passing. She was always such a sweet person. I remember babysitting both you and Patrick. Your parents helped so many families through Compassionate Friends, that was their legacy. Please know that I'll be keeping you in my prayers.

Linda Swalwell Martin

Linda Martin - August 29, 2024 at 06:54 PM

TF

“ The Halsey and Shipley families purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Carolyn Cummings.



The Halsey and Shipley families - August 29, 2024 at 05:38 PM

WF

“ With love from your Rhode Island Family purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Carolyn Cummings.



With love from your Rhode Island Family - August 29, 2024 at 11:59 AM

WF

“ *With love from your Rhode Island Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Carolyn Cummings.*

With love from your Rhode Island Family - August 29, 2024 at 11:59 AM