



## Judy Bailey

January 6, 1955 - May 19, 2024

Judy Kaye Bailey was born on January 6, 1955 in Harveyville, Kansas, the daughter of Kenneth Eugene and Gertrude Rendell Henderson.

She earned college degrees in psychology and history and had an early career working for Southwestern Bell. She joyously married Stuart Bailey in 1996. The next year they welcomed their daughter Brooke, whom Judy adored. After enjoying Brooke's company full time for five years, Judy returned to Washburn University where she earned a Master of Social Work degree, turning her natural compassion, understanding, and warmth into a professional and personal pursuit helping others, especially vulnerable children. She served as a social worker strengthening families at KVC Health Systems, the Girl Scouts, and in the Santa Fe Trail and Valley Falls school districts.

Judy was a lifelong lover of animals. She was extremely proud when daughter Brooke attended Kansas State University and became a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine. Judy was a passionate supporter of humane responses to and support for local feral cats, and was deeply involved with Pawsitively Jefferson County and Topeka Community Cat Fix. Her friends, family, and anyone else lucky enough to know her felt at ease and inspired by her generous and caring heart.

In retirement, Judy had embraced living life to its fullest, going on frequent travels and adventures with Stuart and good friends. Tragically, a kayaking accident on such a trip on the Buffalo River near Harrison, AR took Judy's life on May 19, 2024.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents, Kenneth and Gertrude Henderson, her brother, Jay Henderson, her sister, Jeannie Patton, and her brother-in-law, Pat Patton.

She is survived by and lives on in the hearts of her husband, Stuart Bailey and daughter, Brooke Bailey. She will be missed by many friends and her nieces and nephews. She cherished her close relationship with her grand niece and nephew, Aqua and Atchison Henderson.

A celebration of life will be held on June 8, 2024 at 2:00 PM at the Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Rd., Topeka KS 66614.

Memorial contributions may be made to Pawsitively Jefferson County or Topeka Community Cat Fix sent in care of the funeral home.

Condolences may be sent online at [www.kevinbrennanfamily.com](http://www.kevinbrennanfamily.com)

# Previous Events

## Celebration of Life

JUN 8. 2:00 PM (CT)

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Judy Bailey* ”



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**Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home** - June 05, 2024 at 08:11 PM

PG

*Judy a beautiful person not just that blonde hair and blue eyes but a beautiful soul. I first met Judy when Brooke was a toddler, so I am blessed with years of treasured memories. That said speaking of toddler, Judy was often late saying she lived on "toddler time" - well into Brooke's elementary years. And Brooke she was often late even after you were off to college so no fault of yours. Likely she was late because she stopped to care for someone or something along the way. I witnessed so much selfless caring for her family, her friends, her school kids, many critters and even a few strangers. The first time my daughter in law met, they took a kitten home. I'm sure a few of you were also blessed in that way as well. Wherever she went she brought calm, joy and acceptance. Fact is she was so wonderful to be around, that my Mom, my sisters, my friends all wanted to know "Is Judy coming" yep she made every event just that much better. She was a person my boys could trust and rely on - and they did many times. She was a lover of nature - some of my most treasured memories are events in Miss Ellie the RV, picnics and kayaks through Lily pads. She was there in my tragedies and celebrations. She picked me up and restored me, many times - guiding me to be a better person. Many times Judy was my photographer as well as my counselor. I already treasured those pictures but how much more precious are they now. Judy was always just a text or phone call away (well if her phone wasn't temporarily lost - laugh). So now my challenge is to be more like Judy- so much beauty and worth if I could but see the world through Judy's eyes. Maybe then I would have that Judy smile that lit up a room and warmed hearts. She left us a lot of love here on earth - I plan to take mine and give it out in a way that would honor her legacy. Patsy*

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**Patsy Gunn** - June 09, 2024 at 10:50 AM

DO

*“ There has never been a person more suited to be a therapist than Judy. A person created by God to help others and make the world a better place.*

*Stuart and Brooke: I am so sorry for your loss. Duane Olberding*

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**Duane Olberding** - June 08, 2024 at 05:19 PM

FR

“ From Phil, Mary, Sara and Randy. purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Judy Bailey.



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From Phil, Mary, Sara and Randy. - June 06, 2024 at 11:04 PM



“ Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Judy Bailey.



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June 06, 2024 at 03:03 PM

RC

“ Rural Water #5 Osage County planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judy Bailey.

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Rural Water #5 Osage County - June 06, 2024 at 03:03 PM

TG

“ Judy Bailey was a wonderful person i didn't know Judy I'm sending you my symphaty to the Bailey family may Judy rest in peace 🙏 ☐  
terry I glenn

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Terry I glenn - June 05, 2024 at 12:05 PM

JE

“ Jim and Lori Eldridge planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Judy Bailey.

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Jim and Lori Eldridge - June 05, 2024 at 07:11 AM

JE

“ Jim and Lori Eldridge purchased the Blue Caribbean Bouquet for the family of Judy Bailey.



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**Jim and Lori Eldridge** - June 05, 2024 at 07:11 AM

DM

“ Childhood friends get away from us. They are no less precious. So many fun and joyful memories of Judy, we were inseparable for 12 yrs of school.

*I am so grateful we recently touched base and got caught up on each other's lives. My heart aches along with all who loved her.*

*Debbie Blankenship Mossman*

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**Debbie Mossman** - May 28, 2024 at 06:11 PM

KD

“ So Sorry about Judy. -Kyle and Mickey Dotson

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**Kyle Dotson** - May 27, 2024 at 12:39 PM

KP

“ Judy and myself spent so much time together with our girls sharing great times. Our many adventures will always be treasured. Stuart, Brooke and Judy will always be a part of my family. Our great conversations I will surely miss. Kathy Pojman

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**Kathy Pojman** - May 26, 2024 at 06:00 PM

KM

“ I never knew Judy very well but I know how much Katelyn loved her. I am so shocked to see this! Prayers to the family and all who knew her. Blessings to all.

Kathy Miller - May 25, 2024 at 05:46 PM

BN

“ I will miss my brain-storming TNR sessions with Judy at the Classic Bean. She gave me so much good information. Betty Nelson

Betty Nelson - May 25, 2024 at 09:34 AM

AM

“ I'm sorry to have not known Judy, but I can only imagine she was a very special person to have become such a part of Stuart's life. My sincere condolences to all the family.

Allen McGranahan - May 24, 2024 at 11:23 AM

VS

“ Dearest Judy. How many trips were taken to Manhattan in your RV to help feral cats! You are now our TCCF Guardian Angel; watching over all of us in an effort to change the world for homeless animals. To Judy's family; she was such a wonderful, caring person who will be missed so very much. My heart-felt love and prayers go with you forever more. Vicki Stafford-Looka, TCCF.

Vicki Stafford-Looka - May 23, 2024 at 07:21 PM

T♥

“ Judy was a wonderful person im sending my sympaty to the Bailey family may Judy rest in peace 🙏 ☐ terry I glenn ❤️

Terry I glenn ♥ - May 23, 2024 at 05:00 PM