



## Marjorie Murphy

December 7, 1923 - January 5, 2022

Marjorie Jean Murphy, age 98, Topeka, Kansas, died peacefully in her sleep, Wednesday, January 5th, having been recently surrounded by most of her children and grandkids at Christmas.

Marge was an actress, mother of 10, and committed wife to Tom. She was beautiful, classy, artistic, stylish, loving, and a thinker. Marge liked a good laugh and loved having people around. She was extremely well-loved and cared for in her last years. She lived life with integrity, and she enjoyed her coffee while sitting in a spot of sunshine.

Marge, a Topeka resident since 1953, was born in Sioux Rapids, Iowa on December 7, 1923, to Eva and Edward Michael Murphy. After graduating from Emmetsburg Catholic High School in 1941, Marge showed great perseverance and determination to put herself through college at Buena Vista University in Storm Lake, Iowa.

Marge met Tom Murphy in college and, after she completed a BA in Fine Arts, they were married on May 27, 1948. She taught English and art and directed drama productions at Lincoln Northeast High School in Nebraska before starting a family that eventually grew to include three sons and seven daughters.

Marge was active with Topeka Civic Theatre as a performer and volunteer for nearly 50 years. Her most memorable leading lady roles were in “Driving Miss Daisy”, “On Golden Pond”, and “Foxfire”, for which she won the Renna Hunter Best Actress Award. After serving three terms on TCT’s Board of Directors, and earning other acting and volunteer awards, Marge was inducted into the theatre’s Hall of Fame in 1991. Marge also acted onstage and worked behind the scenes with Helen Hocker Theater, Dale Easton Players, and Chamber Theater.

A member of Most Pure Heart of Mary Church since the early 1950s, Marge remained devoted to her Catholic faith throughout her life. Marge was active in Minerva Club, West Hills Club, Jaycee Janes, and Lady Shriners. Marge had a wonderful way with words and was a prolific writer of letters. She enjoyed gardening, walking, playing bridge, and regular games of Scrabble with her daughters. After Tom’s retirement, they enjoyed traveling all over the world. Marge and Tom always loved to dance! They danced together for the first time to Cole Porter’s “Begin the Beguine” but their favorite version was by Benny Goodman.

Survivors include her children and their spouses: Erin Schluterman (Benno), Pat Murphy, Michael Murphy (Mary Lockton), Sean Turner (Jake), Pegeen Murphy, Megan Lindquist (Dan), Brigid Murphy (Jackson Clark), Sheilah Murphy, and Tara Murphy and 16 grandchildren: Brian Durow, Andrea Durow, Heather Durow, John Henry Murphy, Liam Murphy, Graham Murphy, Madeline Turner, James Turner, Michael Lindquist, Noah Lindquist, Skyler Lindquist, Aubin Murphy, Luisa Venegoni, Luca Venegoni, Elena Venegoni, and Oliver Gustavson.

Marge was preceded in death by Tom, her husband of 65 years, her parents, her sister Ruth, and her son Tim.

Marge's life will be celebrated when the sun is warm, and flowers are in bloom.

Memorial contributions may be made to Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church, Topeka Civic Theatre, and TWHS Tom and Marge Murphy Perseverance Scholarship, and sent in care of Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 Urish Road, Topeka, KS 66614.

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

# Tribute Wall



“ *Marjorie Murphy*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Erin & Benno and all the Murphy family: We are so sorry to hear of the loss of your Mom. She was such a gracious and talented lady and an inspiration to so many! I'm sure that when you are all together the many beautiful stories and memories of her are the cherished delight for all. You are all in our prayers! John & Sally Brooke*

**Sally** - January 11, 2022 at 09:48 PM



“ *Treasures in life are meeting remarkable people. Tom told me a story that, when in college, he took a bit part in a play because he wanted to meet, to woo an actress named Marjorie. It was a sweetheart of a story, just like the woman he would marry. In Chamber Theater discussions, in casual meetings, on stage, I held the treasure of that story. A remarkable sweetheart. A remarkable woman: Marge Murphy.*

**David Tangeman** - January 10, 2022 at 11:02 AM



“ *This is to Mike & all of Murphy Family. Your mother was one of the classiest gals ever! Her countenance & style brought such a brightness wherever she was. My thoughts & prayers are with you all. Take care & God bless you.*

**Charlotte Mccall** - January 09, 2022 at 05:57 PM

TS

“ My name is Theresa Hubbard Stahl. Erin and I are the same age, and we were in Scouts together at MPH. A fond memory from early grade school is Marge directing Troop 410 in a dramatic production of "The Night Before Christmas." Clipped to our belts were small brown bags containing several props. We had so much fun, and it was probably the first time I recognized my flare for the dramatic. God bless you all.

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**Theresa "Terry" Hubbard Stahl** - January 09, 2022 at 02:31 PM

MC

Theresa, Thanks, for a sharing that memory. That was a fun program we did & I had completely forgotten it till I read your post then I could actually visualize us doing it  
Lol  
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**Margie ( Walters ) Cooper** - January 21, 2022 at 04:36 AM

FB

“ Dan and Megan:  
Our heartfelt condolences and sympathy to you for the loss of Marge who remains an inspiration for her life's service and achievements. Thank you for everything and The Very Best to YOU.  
Most sincerely,  
Frank & Margaret Mary Buchman

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**Frank Buchman** - January 09, 2022 at 11:36 AM

DP

“ Sending love to all of the Murphys, and wishing for you the comfort of knowing that Mama Marge is at peace, that she was and is loved by so many, leaving a legacy that covers so many gifts she gave to us all, along with memories we will never forget.



And you who cared for her gave the greatest gift, plus sweet Megan shared a lot of the experience with those of us who love her and cared about what was going on. You'll miss her, and even knowing you did all you could will be small comfort some days, but never forget that you were there to whatever degree you were able, each of you. She adored you all, just as she was adored.

Now, if what some of us believe is true, and I think Marge was one of those who did, she is with Tom, and I like to think that they are with our dad and mom again, once more enjoying the company of those with so much in common, very good friends and also along with so many others as well.

I know no matter what you've been through, this is still hard, there will be days you ache from missing her so much, no matter what has happened in these last years. May you have many wonderful memories to get you through, and lean on each other to make it a little easier. If there's anything I can do, I would be so happy to, don't hesitate to let me know. You all hold a special place in my heart, just as Marge and Tom did, and still do.

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Dee Poe - January 08, 2022 at 09:18 PM

DO

“ Megan,  
I am so sorry for your loss. I'm sure the beautiful memories you and your family created with her will stay with you forever. My thoughts will be with you and your family!  
Dawn Kietzman OBrien

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Dawn Kietzman OBtien - January 08, 2022 at 02:22 PM

LD

“ Marge made a grace-filled contribution to life in Topeka in too many ways to list. Peace to all of the family as you mourn her loss.

LeRoy and Kay Dagg - January 08, 2022 at 10:07 AM

BG

“ May God be with all of you as you celebrate the life of this wonderful Mother and Grandmother.

Bettie Garhart - January 07, 2022 at 06:05 PM

RB

“ I was on stage with Marge when Topeka Civic Theatre did Moon Over Buffalo. She played the part of my mother and was hilarious. She will be greatly missed.

Rosie Best-Cutrer - January 07, 2022 at 02:04 PM

PS

“ Will always remember Marge as a talented and beautiful woman of style, humor and dignity who was unfailingly kind and encouraging. She was also the mother of 10 fabulously beautiful and talented children, one of whom is one of my dearest and best friends. Marge's family's care for her throughout the pandemic was phenomenal. So grateful her family shared that journey with us.

Patti Van Slyke - January 07, 2022 at 12:46 PM

MC

“ Erin & the Murphy Families,

*I saddened to read of your Mom's passing. Your Mom was such a beautiful very posed lady. Our Mom's were talking together one day at a Girl Scout event regarding your Mom's maiden name beibg Murphy prior to marrying a Murphy. My Mom's maiden name was Murphy, as well. Iowa was brought up in the conversation & our Mom's discovered we were distant cousin sharing the same Great Grandparents. One of my fondest memory was a add keep over & eating for the first time a dessert of jello mixed with vanilla ice cream which was awesome. Erin, you & your family are so blessed to of had your Mom for as long as God allowed you to have her in your lives.*

*May God Bless, Marge's Soul in Eternal Peace. I pray that your memories comfort & heals your heart.*

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**Marge (Walters) Cooper** - January 07, 2022 at 02:12 AM

MC

*CORRECTION: One of my fondest memory was a sleep over & eating for the first time a dessert of jello mixed with vanilla ice cream which was awesome.*

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**Marge (Walters) Cooper** - January 07, 2022 at 02:21 AM

MC

“ Marge (Walters) Cooper lit a candle in memory of Marjorie Murphy



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**Marge (Walters) Cooper** - January 07, 2022 at 01:47 AM