



## Mary Kay Bachmann Dowd

January 1, 1953 - April 1, 2004

Mary Katherine "Mary Kay" Riedel Bachmann Dowd, 60, Topeka, died Thursday, April 1, 2004, at St. Francis Hospital in Topeka after a brief illness. She was born Oct. 24, 1943, the daughter of Clara Streckfus and Joseph Andrew Riedel. She attended Most Pure Heart of Mary Grade School and graduated from Hayden High School, Class of 1961. She was a graduate of Washburn University. In 1989, Mary Kay joined the sales team of Maintenance Engineering (ME), a premium supplier of quality commercial lighting. Her dedication and exceptional professionalism earned her many quarterly and yearly awards, including being the only female member of the Top Ten Sales Club for the past four years. Prior to joining ME, Mary Kay was the owner of the clothing store The Tree House. Mary Kay was involved with the American Business Women's Association and was selected as Woman of the Year in 2001. She was active at Most Pure Heart of Mary Catholic Church and served on its Endowment Board. She was founder and president of the board of directors of the YES Learning Center McLouth. On March 18, 1989 Mary Kay and Matthew J. Dowd were married. She loved everyone she met and they in turn loved her. She was a role model for all of her family, friends and business colleagues. She lived her life by the slogan "Let Go and Let God." She was the "Light Bulb Lady" and did indeed light up everyone's life. Mary Kay was preceded in death by her father, Joseph Andrew Riedel. She is survived by her husband, Judge Mathew J. Dowd, Topeka; her daughters: Cara B. Schroeder & husband Michael K. Schroeder, Atlanta; Tara B. Wineinger and

husband Samual Wineinger; Chicago; Kathy M. Bartlett, Seattle; Liz M. Aldrine and husband Baron Aldrine, Dallas; Trish Dowd Kelne and husband Adam Dowd Kelne, Lawrence; sons: Ty Bachmann and wife Jill McNamara-Bachmann, New Bern, NC; and Sgt. Michael N. Dowd; mother Clara B. Riedel, Topeka; sisters: Margie Weidenbaker, Topeka; Patt Papenfuhs, St. Louis; Barbara Riedel O'Leary, Kansas City; and brother Joseph Andrew Riedel, Jr., Atlanta; six grandchildren, and many loving family members. Mary Kay Bachmann Dowd will lie in state from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 6, at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church. A parish rosary will be prayed at 5:30. The funeral Mass will be celebrated at Most Pure Heart of Mary Church on Wednesday, April 7, at 11:00 a.m. followed by burial at Mount Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, the family wishes contributions be made in Mary Kay's name to: Most Pure Heart of Mary Endowment Fund, 1800 SW Stone, Topeka, KS 66604; Hayden High School, 401 Gage Blvd, Topeka KS, 66606; American Business Women's Association, Mid Day Chapter's STRUT Scholarship Fund, made payable to Topeka Community Foundation, sent to P.O. Box 911, Topeka, KS 66601; and Shawnee County Drug Court, c/o Topeka Community Foundation, 5431 SW 29th Topeka, KS 66614. Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Mary Kay Bachmann Dowd*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Judge Dowd, I am very sorry to hear of Mary Kaye's passing. May God be with you in your time of need, and I know that her soul was in heaven a half and hour before the devil knew she was dead. Keep the faith.*

**John J. Knoll** - April 07, 2004 at 10:46 PM



“ *Dear Judge Dowd,  
I am so very sorry to hear of your loss. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family. I miss seeing you every day at the courthouse. If there is anything I can do to help, please call.  
Charles. L. Bloss, Jr., Deputy Sheriff (Ret.)*

**Charles L. Bloss, Jr.** - April 07, 2004 at 09:40 PM



“ *We were shocked and saddened to hear about Mary Kay...We sent our condolences to all of you and are thinking of you today at the Mass which will celebrate her full and loving life...Jim & Jacque Pusateri*

**Jim & Jacque Pusateri** - April 07, 2004 at 07:44 PM

JH

*“ I was shocked to hear of Mary Kay's death. I had just heard last week that she was ill. The last time I saw her was at Judge Pusateri's retirement ceremony last summer. I represented Mary Kay in business matters many years ago and know first hand what a fine woman she was. No words can take away your grief and pain, but know that lots of us will be thinking of you and praying for you.*

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**Jan Hamilton** - April 07, 2004 at 07:42 PM

GC

*“ What a loss. Mary Kay was truly a class act and will be missed by me and all who knew her. With sincere sympathy, an ABWA friend.*

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**Gay Crawford** - April 07, 2004 at 02:40 PM

CM

*“ Tara- Since I found out it seems I can't get it off my mind. I am so sorry. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your family during this time. I remember your mom always making your friends feel right at home.*

*God Bless,  
Christine Magathan-Dahl  
Fort Worth, TX*

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**Christine Magathan-Dahl** - April 07, 2004 at 01:51 PM

HP

“ Ty,  
*It has been many years since I've seen you, but my thoughts and prayers are with you. I remember your mother's smile at school and church and anywhere else the MPH family gathered when we were kids. I know the hole she has left in many of my friends and family's lives and cannot imagine what you're going through right now. Please know how many keep you in their hearts and prayers. God Bless, Holly*

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**Holly Urbom Palacio** - April 07, 2004 at 12:39 PM

CF

“ *Mary Kay was a delightful, loving, caring woman. We are in shock to hear of her passing. Our hearts reach out to all her family as they carry on her love and strength for each other. May OUR GRACIOUS GOD comfort and bless you each and every day. Cindy & Judge Richard Rogers Family, Katie Conklin Burenheide Family, and Ken Conklin III Family*

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**Cindy & Judge Richard Rogers Family** - April 07, 2004 at 12:28 PM

RF

“ *Mike and family. I am very sorry to hear about your mother's passing. May God be with you during this difficult time. Thinking of you.*

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**Richard Fergison** - April 07, 2004 at 09:48 AM

KE

“ Mary Kay was a wonderful woman who left a deep impression on my heart. She was so much fun at the KP events, and I'll always treasure the time she entertained my 30 youth group kids for 2 days in the neighborhood. My thoughts & prayers are with you all. Peace & Love~ Kelly Eargle

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**Kelly Eargle** - April 06, 2004 at 12:08 AM

DS

“ Matt, Ty, Family,

*My deepest thoughts and prayers go out to you and your families. I will always remember Mary Kay's smiling face as she visited the academy and Ty. She was a child of God and has gone to be with Him. Rest assured she is in a better place looking down on all of us. GBUA...David Sudbeck 05 APR 2004*

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**David Sudbeck** - April 05, 2004 at 06:56 PM

SS

“ Matt, we were saddened to hear about Mary Kay. We can not imagine what is like to lose your soul mate, just remember the good times you and Mary Kay had. Our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

*Fondly  
Stan and Carla Soper*

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**Stan and Carla Soper** - April 05, 2004 at 09:55 AM

KH

“ I met with Mary Kay and other extraordinary women for breakfast Tuesday mornings for several years, and at the same time for not enough years. She was a definite asset to the community, a treasure for all who knew her, a positive influence in our lives. Thank you, Mary Kay, for sharing your life with me, I am a better person because of you.

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**Karen Heaton** - April 05, 2004 at 09:45 AM

JW

“ Tara, Cara, Tyson and Matt. I don't know how to tell you how sorry We feel for your loss. Even though I haven't been real close to Mary Kay the last few years we were so for so many years. Of course my thoughts are mostly of Mark with her and all the times and things we did together.

*I, unfortunately, have to be out of town until Thursday eve. and will not be able to see and talk to you. Linda will convey our condolences, but I will miss the opportunity to do in person. Please know how I feel and hopefully I can be in touch later.*

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**Jerry Wittman** - April 04, 2004 at 02:25 PM

EF

“ i am stunned...when i arrived this a.m. @ hospital and didn't see mary kay's name on my list, my heart jumped, i felt chilled, but, just from our brief visits, i figured mary kay's "spunky-ness" had gotten her "out of jail" and home...just now settling in to read today's paper (6:20 p.m.)...there is mary kay...oh, jeezul-peezul...she DID leave me with a chuckle, only SHE would pass on april fool's day!!! in my prayers...and matthew, please watch your blood sugar, esp. now...talk to m.k. she's right there with you all...elizabeth, eucharistic minister @ saint's

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**elizabeth friend** - April 03, 2004 at 06:58 PM

NS

“ *Matt, and family-*

*Please allow her love to surround you at this dark time, and God the chance to keep you in his arms. Mary Kaye will be missed by many, I will keep in all in my thoughts and prayers.*

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**Nancy Scanlan** - April 02, 2004 at 05:05 PM