



Peggy Hickey Bybee

December 25, 1943 - December 9, 2023

Peggy Hickey Bybee, 79, passed away Saturday, December 9, 2023, at The University of Kansas St. Francis Hospital in Topeka.

Peggy was born Margaret Frances Rooney on Christmas Day 1943, in Sheboygan, Wisconsin. The daughter of James and Frances Rooney, Peggy grew up in the village of Kohler and was active in Girl Scouts and activities with other families who worked at the Kohler Company. She loved growing up in the village with her grandparents by her side. She had wonderful memories with family and made many lifelong friends.

In 1962, Peggy graduated from Kohler High School, and a proud Badger through and through, she graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 1966 with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. She then began her professional career with Southwestern Bell Phone Company (SWB).

Having enough of the cold Wisconsin winters, and promotional opportunities with SWB, Peggy moved to Topeka in 1977 and would call Topeka home for the rest of her life. She enjoyed a successful career at SWB holding various management roles. Peggy loved leading teams and understood the importance of mentorship and encouraging her team to learn new skills and try new things. She had an appreciation for education.

In 1989, Peggy met her lifelong companion, Jack Lee Bybee, and they would spend 34 years together. A life that included sharing their love for their toy poodles, Tanzy, Tucker and Tinker, their love for the Catholic Church, cheering for the Jayhawk basketball team, sporting events, attending civic theatre, traveling to IndyCar races, trips to Kohler, and volunteering for a local reading program at Assumption Grade School and PGA events in Kohler. Peggy and Jack were married February 21, 2015.

Peggy retired from SWB/AT&T and took Jack up on his offer to join Topeka Foundry and Iron Works. She worked for ten years at TF&I, where she led benefits and other safety and training initiatives.

Peggy loved to cook and she loved her fashion. She especially cherished her time with friends and family. Girlfriend get togethers, cheering on the Green Bay Packers, or enjoying a green beer for St. Patrick's Day. Her spirit, her smile, and her laugh will be missed by many.

Survivors include her husband, Jack; stepdaughters, Angie Bybee (Jeanette Blide), Wichita, and Amy Bybee, Chicago; sisters-in-law, Jill Bybee Ables, and Jan Bybee Biggs; many cousins, nephews, nieces, and great nephews, and best friends. Peggy was preceded in death by her parents, grandparents and stepfather, Elmer Rasch.

The family thanks the ICU and the 6th floor medical staff at St. Francis Hospital for their care and compassion.

There will be a prayer service at 5 p.m. Friday, December 15, 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. Saturday at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 227 SW Van Buren, Topeka KS 66603.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the National Scleroderma Foundation, <https://national.scleroderma.org/site> or to St. Joseph Catholic Church, and sent in care of the funeral home.

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

Cemetery Details

Mount Hope Cemetery

4700 SW 17th Street
Topeka, KS 66604

Previous Events

Prayer Service

DEC 15. 5:00 PM (CT)

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

Visitation

DEC 15. 5:15 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

DEC 16. 10:00 AM (CT)

St. Joseph Catholic Church
227 SW Van Buren Street
Topeka, KS 66603

Tribute Wall



“ Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Peggy Hickey Bybee



Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home - December 13, 2023 at 11:36 AM

SL

“ Jack, very sorry to learn of Peggy's passing. Although I had never met Peggy I knew she was a special person by the way you spoke of her when we talked or exchanged e-mails. After watching the tribute video and reading her obituary it was obvious she was a very special person who accomplished many things throughout her life. My loss that I never met her. Stan

Stan Laidlaw - December 20, 2023 at 04:22 PM



“ Jack, we are saddened to hear of Peggy's passing. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

The Wednesday Hyvee coffee group

Linda O'Keeffe - December 17, 2023 at 08:50 PM

MC

“ I am glad I had the opportunity to meet Peggy at the McDonald's coffee club. She was a classy lady. So sorry for your loss and may God comfort you now

Mary Ann Cummings - December 17, 2023 at 01:48 PM

WB

“ So sorry to read this. Thoughts and prayers to Jack and all of Peggy's family.

Winifred Brewster - December 16, 2023 at 08:11 PM

PM

“ Jack,

We are truly sorry for the loss of your wife, Peggy. Though we did not know her, she certainly sounds like a wonderful, giving person. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your loved ones. Praise God for the gift of resurrection; we will all be perfect with our Lord Jesus Christ!

We knew you way back in the day. In the late 1970's, we were recruited to play co-ed softball by the team you and your company supported. We had just moved to Topeka after college and this opportunity gave us our first circle of friends.

When we eventually moved to Kearney, NE in 2005, we joined Faith United Methodist Church. In a few years, a bunch of young adults in the church wanted to start a softball team. This provided us a blessing to play softball again in our 50's! We all agreed this team would not be competitive; we just wanted to bring the glory of God to the softball field!

Church members cheered us on each game! Team members encouraged many who were having a rough go in their personal life, to support or to join the team. Talent was not a requirement; fun was. This went on for 10 years. Eventually, we even won a few games!

During that time, we opened our home to the young adults (and their babies & toddlers) once a week for Bible Study.

The original two young adults who organized the team went on to serve as Chaplain in the US Army and to answer God's call to the Ministry.

We don't always know God's plans for our lives.

But see what you started?!

God Bless you and keep you.

Lee & Patty McQueen

Patty McQueen - December 16, 2023 at 01:22 PM

BF

“ Jack, I was so saddened to hear of Peggy’s passing. It’s always so hard to say goodbye and definitely tougher during the holidays. I have such fond memories of your family through the years!! Please know my thoughts and prayers are with you and and the family. Howard sends his condolences too!

Brenda (Baker) Fulmer - December 15, 2023 at 07:49 PM

LC

“ Jack and Family, we were so sad when mom told us that Peggy had passed away. My memories of you both coming to watch both Austin and Logan in their sporting events at Hayden, seeing you both on New Years Day and Superbowl parties....the list goes on. I admired her wit and spark!! She will be missed by all; however, her loving memory lives on.

LeAnn Crow - December 14, 2023 at 05:42 PM

RJ

“ A wonderful soul has entered heaven's gates - Peggy was a joy to know and have fond memories. Jack, may you know that our thoughts and prayers are with you today and in the days to come.

Rick and Dee Shively

Robert Shively, Jr. - December 14, 2023 at 12:55 PM

CM

“ Jack I’m so sorry to hear about Peggy my thoughts and prayers are with you and the family

Chris Mumford - December 13, 2023 at 09:49 PM



“ *Such a beautiful soul. I'm so glad that I knew her.*

Eldon Rice - December 13, 2023 at 09:42 PM



“ *Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Peggy Hickey Bybee.*



December 13, 2023 at 06:38 PM



“ *So so sorry to hear of Peggy's passing. Such a beautiful fun person that I was proud to know. She was smart and funny with such a positive attitude! She will be missed! We valued her and Jack as our friends. As the new days come, Jack, you will be in our prayers; as we know she is in a better place* ❤️

Patty Ramsey - December 13, 2023 at 05:27 PM



I was saddened to hear of Peggy's passing. I enjoyed visiting with her when I worked at Jen's. Sending prayers to Jack and the rest of her family.

Marci Lynch - December 13, 2023 at 08:57 PM



“ *Jack, we are so sorry for your loss. We always enjoyed visiting with you and Peggy at Desmond's events. May God be with you and grant you peace and comfort. Deepest sympathy. Connie & Gaylord Kelsey*



Connie Kelsey - December 13, 2023 at 03:42 PM

CP

“ *Southwestern Bell, Church activities, Taco Tuesday, Hayden Bleachers, Girls Movie night, the list goes on. Margaret, Peggy or "nancy", your silly giggle will be remembered, and the wonderful fun memories will last forever.*

Bill & Cecelia Pierson

CECELIA PIERSON - December 13, 2023 at 12:22 PM

SK

“ *Jack, Sorry for your loss. May she RIP Steve Kooser*

Steve Kooser - December 13, 2023 at 08:32 AM

JS

“ *Jack, we are so sorry to hear about Peggy. Our thoughts are with you through these difficult times Jeff and Sherry shively*

Jeff Shively - December 13, 2023 at 12:38 AM

JW

“ *Condolences to Peggy's family
We were coworkers at SWBell in topeka. She was a delight to know and work with.
May all your memories guide you during this difficult time.
Sincerely,
Judy Whisler*

judy whisler - December 13, 2023 at 12:11 AM

DG

“ *Sorry for your loss, Jack. We sure enjoyed working with her and getting to know her better at Let's Help.*

Doug Gartner - December 12, 2023 at 10:51 PM



“ *Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Peggy Hickey Bybee.*



December 12, 2023 at 07:33 PM



“ *I was able to reconnect with my cousin Peggy 13 years ago. Loved visiting with her, talk recipes, family traditions, and did a lot of reminiscing about growing up in KOHLER. I will miss you but you will always live in my heart.*

Jeanine Mullen - December 12, 2023 at 07:29 PM



“ *Jack I'm so sorry for your loss* 💔

Sue Banks - December 12, 2023 at 06:05 PM



“ *Jack, we are so sorry to hear about Peggy. She was such a delightful lady. Our thoughts and prayers go to you and family.*
Rex & Kay Fiedler

Rex Fiedler - December 12, 2023 at 05:19 PM



“ *I am so sorry to know that Peggy has passed away. Prayers are with you Jack and family.*

Kay Dobbs - December 12, 2023 at 05:06 PM

PP

“ jack, I just wanted to tell you how Peggy always made us smile. She was so fun always!! Matt and I are so glad that you brought her into our lives. She will be missed. You have all our love and prayers during this difficult time ❤️. What an Angel she will be missed. Love, Matt and Patti Porubsky

Patti Porubsky - December 12, 2023 at 04:37 PM

SB

Jack, I am sorry to read about your loss of Peggy. It sounds like you shared a wonderful time together. May those memories bring you peace. Your childhood neighbor, Susie Holloway Buchan

susie bucham - December 13, 2023 at 12:00 AM

KL

I am so saddened to hear of Peggy's passing. She was such a joy to have as a friend and classmate at Kohler and I looked forward to seeing her at reunions. Always a kind word and amazing smile. My heart goes out to all her special family in Kansas who were fortunate to share so much of her life.

Kathy Lutzke - December 13, 2023 at 09:28 AM

JB

Jack, Sorry to hear of Peggy's passing. May your memories carry you thru this period. Thoughts and prayers for you and your family. Jeff Biggs

Jeff Biggs - December 13, 2023 at 12:13 PM

JG

So sorry for your loss, Jack.

Judy Gatewood - December 13, 2023 at 07:49 PM



Jack, Very Sorry to hear of your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with you in this difficult time. Wayne & Liz Warner

Wayne W. Warner - December 15, 2023 at 03:28 PM



Jack, So sorry to hear of Peggy's passing. It sounds like you really had a wonderful life together. Hold your memories tight. Irma Ward

Irma Ward - December 16, 2023 at 10:19 PM