



## Peggy Wheeler

January 11, 1954 - December 29, 2013

Peggy Estelle Wheeler passed away from sudden heart failure on December 19, 2013, in her beloved Cancun, Mexico while vacationing with her loving husband, Matthew Wheeler. Peggy was born on January 11, 1954, in Tampa, Florida to Donald and Elizabeth Powers. Both have preceded her in death. Peggy grew up in the state of Washington, living in several cities. After high school, Peggy moved to Germany and worked for the Civil Service Court for the U.S. Government. For personal advancement, Peggy became a certified single-engine pilot. Peggy's career in the telecommunications industry started in Junction City, Kansas in October of 1977, with United Telephone Company of Kansas. There she served in several positions during the next ten years, including Business Office Supervisor in Junction City and Outside Plant Manager in central and western Kansas. During the transition of the company from United Telephone to Sprint, she was promoted and moved to the Kansas City area, where she again served in several positions, including Network Project Planning, Manager-Nationwide Call Center and Director of Strategic Solutions-New Business. Peggy married Matt Wheeler in 1986 in Jamaica. After ending her first career with the birth of their second child in 1990, Peggy devoted her time to being a stay-at-home mom. She home-schooled her two children and participated in every aspect of their education including achieving first degree black belts. From that introduction to martial arts, blossomed an excitement and desire to learn Tai Chi. She began her journey to become a Tai Chi instructor in 2002 and was trained by Grandmaster Jinheng Li and

Grandmaster Peter Hill, both of Phoenix. In the summer of 2005, she was certified as a fourth level instructor and began her second career and true passion, Topeka Tai Chi. From the start, her goal was to entertain, educate, and empower her students. She developed a local S.T.A.R. program for seniors as a church ministry outreach program for multiple churches. Currently, classes are held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. She touched many lives through her classes or by just passing her on the street with her warm, loving nature. She will be greatly missed. Peggy leaves behind her loving husband, Matthew D. Wheeler; son Adrian P. Wheeler; daughter, Elizabeth Evanne Wheeler; her mother-in-law, Mary Ann Wheeler; three sisters, two brothers, three sisters-in-law, and two brothers-in-law. Family will greet friends from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at Kevin Brennan Family Funeral Home, 2801 SW Urish Road, Topeka KS 66614. Her funeral service will be Monday at 10:30 a.m. at the funeral home. Burial will follow at Mount Calvary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made in Peggy's name to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Big Brother/Big Sister, and Loving Hearts, sent in care of the funeral home.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Peggy Wheeler*

January 28, 2023 at 12:08 PM



“ *Matt and family, I am so sorry for your sudden loss. May your family find comfort and strength in each other during this time of sorrow. You are in my thoughts and prayers.*

**Robin Harris** - December 30, 2013 at 07:38 PM



“ *To Matt and Family,  
I was sorry to learn about the death of your wife Peggy. It is such a devastating loss and so hard to understand.  
You and your family will be in my thoughts and prayers.*

**George Berlin** - December 30, 2013 at 07:22 PM



“ *Matt, Adrian & Evann: Today, Louise & I were shocked with the news about Peggy. We are so sorry for all of you. Peggy was such a wonderful, intelligent lady. We will miss her very much. We are definitely praying for all of you. Our thoughts are with you. Love you guys!*

**Aaron & Louise Zeikle** - December 29, 2013 at 09:16 PM

DS

“ To Matt and family,  
Your family has been on my heart since I heard the news of Peggy in church last Sunday.  
I have very fond memories of Peggy as a student in her Tai Chi classes. She had a big, warm heart and was generous in sharing it. Your family impressed me as being so loving and supportive of each other.  
She will be greatly missed. My prayers and thoughts are with you all.

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**Debbie Simmer** - December 29, 2013 at 02:52 PM

SD

“ Dear Matt, Adrian and Evanne,  
We are so sorry for the loss of this special and beloved person in your lives. Peggy loved you very much and was so proud of all your accomplishments; very proud to be your wife and mother. She touched the lives of so many. I don't remember her being a follower, but an amazing leader - providing encouragement, inspiration, faith, and love to her many friends. We are blessed that she was here, that she shared herself with us and we will deeply miss her. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

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**Sue and Ray Donoho** - December 28, 2013 at 08:32 AM

MS

“ We are sorry to hear of Peggy. Our prayer are with you, Adrian and Evann. We both have have been honored to have known Peggy not just through Tai Chi but also as a wonderful person. Her peace and patience has brought peace and love to us.

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**Michael & Cherie Scott** - December 27, 2013 at 02:53 PM

VW

“ Adrian, Evanne and Matt - your loss is immense, so much larger than most. I'm so very sorry.

*Among my many Arts community and University contacts, Peggy stands out as singularly talented and productive. Outside-the-box-creativity and solid competence are so rarely combined in one person. Peggy then added such a high level of personal support - to so many. I cherish memories of your home, filled with art and music and open to all. It was a privilege to have known her. And you!...Virginia Wallace*

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**virginia wallace** - December 27, 2013 at 11:35 AM

FP

“ My thoughts and prayers are with the entire family. It sounds like Peggy had a good life, lived with people who loved her, a sense of purpose, and a belief in God. If the latter is true, then she is not lost. People are never lost if you know where they are. I hope you are comforted by the knowledge of a future reunion with her.

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**Faith Powers** - December 27, 2013 at 08:19 AM

ND

“ Dear Matt:

*When we heard of Peggy's passing at Countryside, I could scarcely believe it. She was the picture of good physical and spiritual health when I saw her last month. I have held you and the kids very close in my heart all week long.*

*Peggy was always a source of inspiration for me. She had a big heart and a generous spirit. It was so kind of you to include Big Brothers Big Sisters in the memorials. We are leaving for Houston on Sunday; I will only be with you in spirit on Sunday and Monday... as I have been for the past week.*

*Grief is the price we paying for loving someone. It is sign of God's Grace that he gives us the gift before we have to pay the price.  
Grace and Peace,*

*Nancy Daniels*

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**Nancy Daniels** - December 26, 2013 at 09:17 PM

PB

“ *We were shocked and saddened to learn of Peggy's death and she and Matt and their family are in our thoughts and prayers. Peggy was a wonderful person and a great instructor.*

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**Pat & Char Brazil** - December 26, 2013 at 06:56 PM

BV

“ *Matt, Adrian and Evan, I'm so sorry to hear of Peggy's passing. She was a very special lady and a wonderful second mom to my boys Marcus and Kenny Freeman. We will keep you all in our prayers during this difficult time. If we can help with anything please let us know.*

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**Brenda Villanueva** - December 24, 2013 at 03:15 PM

BR

“ Peggy was a wonderful person, and I was honored to teach art to her children. God bless you all.

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**BARB RESER** - December 23, 2013 at 07:42 PM

AW

“ I am so sorry for your loss. I had Peggy as my Tai Chi teacher and she taught me so much. She was so full of love for life. Just know that she will be so missed. I will keep you and your family in my prayers.

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**Ann Walters** - December 23, 2013 at 07:39 PM

LW

“ Matt, I'm so sorry to hear about your loss. I hope you can find some comfort through your wonderful family in the coming days.

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**Larry Wohlgemuth** - December 23, 2013 at 12:53 PM

SB

“ Sorry to hear of your loss, but I was told that Peg dies several years ago. Guess she just pulled a disappearance act to get away with her husband that she even kept secret. Can't blame her though because of all the drama that goes on around town. May God Bless the family for their loss.

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**Sgt. Connie Bailey** - December 23, 2013 at 12:23 PM

GK

“ Matt

*So sorry to hear about Peg's passing. I always enjoyed visiting with her and she was so full of life. She will be greatly missed as you were two of a kind. Always doing everything together. Our condolences to you and the family.*

*Gary and Sheila Knoll*

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**Gary D. Knoll** - December 23, 2013 at 09:32 AM

DH

“ Oh Matt, I am so sorry Peggy has left you, Adrian and Evann. I am so glad she was in a place she loved and with the love of her life. You two are the perfect couple. I will miss her hugs and bright smile at church. I am a better person for having Peggy in my life. Her grace and charm are seen in Evann's eyes each time I see her. God will see you all thru this sorrowful time and you are much loved so if you need us, just reach out and we will be there for you all.

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**Dan & Claudia Hamer** - December 23, 2013 at 08:23 AM

SD

“ I have only had the honor of being Peggy's friend for a few months, but I thank God for the wisdom she shared with me and for the laughs we had on our lunch dates at Panera. I will always love her.

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**Sheri Daugherty** - December 22, 2013 at 05:06 PM