



Ann Elaine Kelly

February 12, 1940 - March 22, 2019

Ann Elaine Kelly, 79, of Cincinnati, Ohio, formerly of “Portland” DeMossville, Kentucky, passed away on Friday, March 22, 2019, at Wellspring Health Care Center in Cincinnati. She ended her life as she lived it, filled with joy. Born on the Kelly Family Farm on February 12, 1940, she was a daughter of the late John H. “Jack” and Esther Donehue Kelly. In 1958, Ann earned the title of Kentucky Dairy Princess and graduated from Butler High School. For one year she traveled extensively speaking and serving as an ambassador for dairy farmers and the retail dairy industry. She continued her education earning her Bachelor’s Degree from the University of Kentucky in 1964. Ann began her career in retail with the Cincinnati landmark Mabley & Carew Department Store. She then embarked on a 31 year career with Mercantile Stores first as a China Buyer in Lexington KY with McAlpins, involved in the opening of the Turfland and Lexington Mall stores. Respected in the industry, Ann was promoted to Corporate buyer of china, silver, glass & specialty gifts with the Mercantile Stores in New York, where she lived in Manhattan, around the corner from the late Kathryn Hepburn, and within 15 minutes of the theatre district, where she saw her favorite musical “CATS” four times. When Mercantile Stores relocated to Fairfield OH, Ann was able to relocate to the Cincinnati area where she began her career. Ann was a lifelong member of St. John Catholic Church – Dividing Ridge.

Ann loved her family and her faith. Her humble and kind nature, always focusing on the needs and concerns of others, made her a bright light in the

lives of those blessed to know her. Equally at home working in New York City or on the Kelly family farm, Ann bloomed wherever she was planted.

She is survived by one sister, Mary Fiorini and one brother, Gerald Kelly, and her sister-in-law, Jo Schmutte Kelly, all of Cincinnati, OH; many nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews; and a host of extended family and friends.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by five siblings: John (the late Edelle McCoy) Kelly, Charles Kelly, Lillian (the late Ralph Schweinefuss), Harry (the late Norma Foster) Kelly, and Alfred Kelly.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 11 am on Saturday, March 30, 2019, at St. John Catholic Church - Dividing Ridge, with Fr. Damian Hills officiating. The visitation will be from 5-8 pm on Friday, March 29, 2019, at the Woodhead Funeral Home, 310 W. Shelby Street, Falmouth, KY 41040. Interment will take place in the St. John Cemetery, DeMossville. In lieu of flowers, memorials are suggested to the St. John's Cemetery Fund, or the charity of the donor's choice.

Cemetery Details

St. John Cemetery

834 Center Ridge Road
DeMossville, KY 41033

Previous Events

Visitation

MAR **29**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Woodhead Funeral Homes, Memorials & Cremation Service - Falmouth
310 W. Shelby Street
Falmouth, KY 41040
(859) 654-3306
office@woodheadfuneralhome.com

Mass of Christian Burial

MAR **30**. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John Catholic Church - Dividing Ridge
834 Center Ridge Road
DeMossville, KY 41033

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I remember Ann from her time at Mercantile. She was, as others describe, beautiful in all ways possible, & so smart ___ ahead of her time in business. My grandmother , Laretta Kelly Sheehan of Falmouth, & 2 Irish KY settlements, believed we were distant cousins.
Mary Michele " mickey" Sheehan , Miami, FL

Mary Michele " mickey" Sheehan - June 06, 2025 at 02:16 PM

BP

“ Expressing my sympathies to Ann’s family. Remembering our wonderful times at Butler High in cheerleading with Ann. So sorry to hear of her passing. My sympathies and prayers go out to Mary and Gerald. Sincerely,
Brenda Huff Pryor



Brenda Pryor - March 29, 2019 at 01:56 PM

BK

“ Gerald, Mary and Jo,

I am so sorry for your loss. I remember Ann very well. How could you forget her, she was so kind, and truly interested in people and what they were doing. My Mom and Dad thought the world of her. Mary Edith let us know last night that she passed and I would of been there, but I am out of town this weekend. My prayers are with the whole Kelly family and I am so sorry I will be missing seeing everyone.

What a great loss.

Kelly Strong!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Beth Kelly Klawitter and the whole Ernest Kelly Family. RIP Ann.

Beth Klawitter - March 28, 2019 at 08:46 AM

JW

“ *Ann Elaine Kelly was one of my college roommates and remained a very good friend even after we went out into the world to make our ways. What a fun and fine person she was! I remember trips to the family farm where I got to know her parents; her siblings Charlie, Mary, and Gerald; and Mary's wonderful kids. Kelly, as we all knew her, was positive and upbeat throughout her life and that positive attitude did not desert her even in her last weeks. I will remember my dear friend and I will miss her so very much. Blessings on her memory and all those who loved her.*

Joberta Wells - March 24, 2019 at 07:58 PM

AM

“ *I remember Ann's kindness and generosity. She was a beautiful person in every sense of the word. My condolences to her family.*

Alleen Spaulding Mapes - March 24, 2019 at 07:32 PM

AM

My entire family (The Spauldings) admired and respected Ann. Rest in peace Ann.

Alleen Spaulding Mapes - March 24, 2019 at 07:34 PM

CW

“ *Stephen and family, condolences and prayers for your loss. I remember Ann as a teenager/young adult when I was quite young. It sounds as though she lived a full and satisfying life. Mat God keep you and Ann safe in his hands.*

Carol (Jump) Westwood - March 24, 2019 at 07:04 PM



“ *Lily and Rose Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Ann Elaine Kelly.*



March 24, 2019 at 02:15 PM

AC

“ *All our love, Chris, Jessica, & Violet Conrow purchased the Emerald Garden Basket for the family of Ann Elaine Kelly.*



All our love, Chris, Jessica, & Violet Conrow - March 23, 2019 at 01:47 PM