



## Barbara Kelsey Hoffman

March 27, 1935 - May 5, 2025

Barbara Kelsey Hoffman of West Hartford, Connecticut, age 90, passed away on May 5th, 2025 after a short illness. She was the widow of her beloved husband of 38 years, Thomas Albert Hoffman.

Barbara was born on March 27th, 1935 to the late John P. Kelsey Jr. and Lavina M. (Cantore) Kelsey.

She was well-known in the early days of Schenectady, New York, broadcasting from radio station WGY and television station WRGB. She also danced for several years with the ballet troupe of Phyllis Marmein.

In 1953 she graduated from Nott Terrace High School in Schenectady and went on to receive her BA from Syracuse University majoring in English Education. She was an active member of Phi Mu Sorority. She was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in West Hartford and was very active each year with the Christmas Festival. She was also a member of the needlepoint group which created the kneelers for the St. John's altar.

Barbara is survived by her son Derek James Hoffman, daughter Heidi Hoffman Gostyla and her husband Jefferey F. Gostyla, and grandson Troy T. Gostyla, all of West Hartford. Alongside her husband and parents, she was predeceased by her son John Kelsey Hoffman and her brother-in-law Robert

James Hoffman, who is survived by his wife Elizabeth. She also leaves behind two nieces, a nephew, and many loving family members and friends. The family would like to extend a special thank you to the caregivers at The Residence at Brookside, where Barbara most recently resided, for the love and companionship they provided to her.

Family and friends are welcome to attend calling hours on Thursday, May 8th from 5-7pm at Molloy Funeral Home, 906 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. A Mass celebrating Barbara's life will be held Friday, May 9th at 11am at St. John's Episcopal Church, 679 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Burial will follow on Saturday, May 10th in Parkview Cemetery, 40 Fehr Ave, Schenectady, NY. The burial will begin at 11am but attendees are encouraged to meet at the front gates of the cemetery at 10:45am. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. John's Episcopal Church, 679 Farmington Ave., West Hartford, CT 06119.

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

MAY 8. 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Molloy Funeral Home  
906 Farmington Avenue  
West Hartford, CT 06119  
(860) 232-1322

## Funeral Mass

MAY 9. 11:00 AM (ET)

St. John's Episcopal Church  
679 Farmington Ave  
West Hartford, CT

## Burial

MAY 10. 11:00 AM (ET)

Park View Cemetery  
40 Fehr Avenue  
Schenectady, NY 12309

*Meet at front gates at 10:45am*

# Tribute Wall

SW

“ My wife Dawn and I share our deepest sympathies for the loss of Barbara to Heidi, Jeff, Derek and Troy. Barbara was such a beautiful woman and had the utmost love for her family. She was so kind to all that had the honor to know her. My wife Dawn and I will miss her. God Bless the Hoffman and Gostyla families. Love, Stephen and Dawn Wierbicki.

STEPHEN F WIERBICKI - May 09, 2025 at 07:38 AM

JM

“ Joe and Marlaine purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman.



Joe and Marlaine - May 07, 2025 at 05:09 PM

YM

“ Your friends at Newport On-Shore Marina purchased the Strength & Solace Spray for the family of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman.



Your friends at Newport On-Shore Marina - May 07, 2025 at 04:47 PM

YM

“ Your friends at Newport On-Shore Marina planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman.

Your friends at Newport On-Shore Marina - May 07, 2025 at 04:47 PM

TF

“ *the Maggio family & the Hoffman family purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman.*



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**the Maggio family & the Hoffman family** - May 07, 2025 at 11:33 AM

LM

“ *Love, Sharon & Andrew Meehan purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman.*



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**Love, Sharon & Andrew Meehan** - May 07, 2025 at 05:56 AM

AN

“ *My deepest condolences to her family I will miss her smile im that secret friend that she had that she use to share her chocolate with i will miss her warmness may her soul rest in eternal peace*

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**Annmarie** - May 06, 2025 at 10:32 PM

LH

*My condolences to the family of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman. I have known Barbara for several years which I affectionately called her BB. A very humble, fun loving & passionate person. Soft spoken always smiling & never afraid of spoke her. She was loved & admired by all of the caregivers of The Residence at Brookside. Rest n peace our beloved BB*

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**Loraine Henry-Davy** - May 08, 2025 at 02:48 PM

AN

“ *Annmarie lit a candle in memory of Barbara Kelsey Hoffman*



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**Annmarie** - May 06, 2025 at 10:26 PM

TW

“ *I will always remember the huge smile she would give me every morning when I said good morning to her. Such a sweet woman. Barbara will always be part of the Brookside family.*  
*Tanya Whiterock*

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**Tanya Whiterock** - May 06, 2025 at 06:01 PM

LD

*There was never a sad moment with Barbara otherwise call BB by most of us whom she would called friends.she is greatly missed by all who had the opportunity of knowing her.my sincere condolences to her family.. Loretta Dasilva*

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**Loretta Dasilva** - May 06, 2025 at 09:54 PM

SF

*My condolence to the family of Barbara as Most of us called her BB Barbara is like a Mother to us we love her so much My she was always knitting a sweater for me but Never finish it and she always gives me that beautiful smile she will be missed forever in my heart from Sonia Fearon*

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**Sonia Fearon** - May 07, 2025 at 01:00 AM