



## Joan Kenny Mattes

April 16, 2024

Joan (Kenny) Mattes passed away peacefully at Avery Heights on Tuesday, April 16, 2024. She was the widow of Donald R. Mattes. Born January 7, 1931 in Hartford, she was the daughter of the late Thomas and Margaret (Calano) Kenny. She resided in West Hartford for 53 years before moving to Avery Heights in 2015. A loving wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, mother-in-law, sister, and aunt - family meant everything to Joan. She leaves her daughters Margaret Monroe, Anne Chapin, Jean Donatelli and her husband Tony, and Claire Crane and her husband John; as well as seven grandchildren Christopher Monroe, Anthony Donatelli and his wife Isabella, Stephanie Donatelli, Lily Donatelli and her fiancé Joseph Calafiore, Colby Chapin and his wife Samantha, Patrick Crane and his wife Lizzie, and Collin Crane and his fiancé Alison Lachapelle; along with great-grandchildren Saylor Chapin and Teresa Donatelli; and several nieces and nephews. She will be greatly missed by her sister Cynthia Kenny. She was predeceased by her sister Mary Ellen Munzell and her two son-in-laws Jim Monroe and Charlie Chapin.

Joan was a graduate of Bulkeley High School, Class of 1948 Salutatorian, and very active with the Reunion Committee. Over the years she worked at the Connecticut Valley Girl Scout Council, Connecticut Printers, Saint Joseph College and The Travelers. She was an avid sports fan watching any kind of sporting event she could find on her tv but she especially loved her NY

Yankees, Hartford Whalers (she was a part of the I91 club and a season ticket holder) and of course her beloved UConn Women's Basketball team where she was fortunate enough to attend many Final Fours. She enjoyed knitting, reading, crossword puzzles and jigsaw puzzles.

In her ordinary way, she loved her grandchildren in amazing fashion spending her time representing as their biggest fan at every concert, recital, and athletic event - whether they were near or far or in sunshine or rain. She also sent hand written letters to each grandchild every week while they were in college.

The family would like to thank all the staff at Avery Heights who lovingly cared for Joan the past nine years.

Funeral services will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, if anyone wishes to honor Joan, she would have wanted donations to the Christopher Monroe Supplemental Needs Trust 23 Crambrook Rd New City NY 10956-4701. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at [www.molloyfuneralhome.com](http://www.molloyfuneralhome.com)

# Tribute Wall



“ So many of my childhood memories include my "Aunt Joan" and my parents, John and Barbara Meier. As my godmother, Joan, was supportive, encouraging, fun, loving and always up for a little adventure! May memories of her joyful spirit comfort all who are missing her.

~Sarah Meier Lawrence

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**Sarah Lawrence** - April 27, 2024 at 01:02 PM



“ As our family did not have the pleasure of meeting your mom until her later years in life, we immediately realized she was better off than we were at 50. As a devoted fan of her grandchildren's activities, we met Joan at a lacrosse game. We began chatting, as she was very social. Through our chat she learned my maiden name was Quigley. She went on to tell me about a very close friend from her younger years named Madeline Quigley. Turns out that was my Aunt. After sharing all her special memories of Madeline that day, the very next game she arrived with a number of pictures she had of her and my Aunt. I remember thinking, I barely know where my own children's pictures were, how could this woman magically present these years from the past. Right then, we realized what a **UNIQUE & INCREDIBLE** woman Joan was. We spent many events together following that first meeting, and will cherish those times in our hearts forever ❤️😊

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**Jennifer Deane** - April 23, 2024 at 09:11 PM

SD

“ To the wonderful daughters of Joan Mattes....Peggy, Anne, Jean and Claire,  
Our hearts and thoughts are with you on the passing of your beautiful, kind and wonderful mother. It is clear that knowing the four of you through your years at Conard...in a variety of different capacities....that you each embraced the wonderful attributes that described your mother and her life. She was so proud of each of you and beamed with pride when watching you or talking of you. Like your mom, the head cheerleader, you each brought so much joy to the lives you touched along the way during those interesting teenage years. We treasure sharing those years with you. Take time to grieve, feel your feelings, laugh, cry, tell stories and hold one another close.

*Sending you positive energy, thoughts, and much love,  
Frank (Coach) and Suzi D'Annolfo*

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**Suzi D'Annolfo** - April 22, 2024 at 05:43 PM

ES

“ Joan Kenny was a great friend, cheerleader and classmate to me at BHS. We worked over the years on all of our class reunions. Joan was extremely helpful and made everyone welcome. We will all miss her!

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**Ed Smokey Samolyk** - April 21, 2024 at 09:34 PM

ED

“Joan was very active at BHS as head cheerleader. I got to know Joan more after graduation when she ran all the reunions. Always a lot of fun and hard working. So sorry to hear of her passing. My condolences to her family.

*Gene Dessureau - BHS 1949  
Bethesda, Md.*

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**Eugene Dessureau** - April 21, 2024 at 05:36 PM

PB

“I remember going to Aunt Joan and Uncle Ducky's home when I was a child, playing in their wading pool with my cousins was the best!

*I will always love and miss Aunt Joan and Uncle Ducky. I last saw her when my father, John Mattes passed away many years ago.*

*Rest in peace Aunt Joan. You will always be loved and missed.  
Pam Mattes Barron*

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**Pamela Mattes Barron** - April 18, 2024 at 09:03 AM