



Katherine J. Mitzel

April 6, 1944 - May 12, 2017

Katherine Mitzel, 73, died in her sleep at home overnight on Thursday. She had spent that day planting petunias in her garden. She had high expectations of her garden and for the people she tended and helped grow. She was a family woman and a demanding teacher.

Katherine's love for reading led to her career teaching reading which she began for the U.S. Army in Europe and ended as the Director of the Learning Advancement Center at Ohio University where she had earned her B.A. (Her Master's Degree was from Goddard College in Vermont).

In addition to her teaching positions she was a successful professional bridge player, a stinger for the Associated Press (AP) in Saigon during the Vietnam War, a bookstore owner, a chocolatier, a President Reagan appointee to the U.S. Council on Refugee Resettlement, an adjunct professor at universities in northeastern Ohio, a civil rights activist, and author of two novels.

Katherine was born on April 6, 1944, the middle of three daughters born to the late Robert and Waneta (Barrett) Lambert. She is survived by her husband David P Mitzel whom she married on August 5, 1995. Sisters Clareann Phipps and Roberta (Randy) Daniels, her children Megyen Green of Zanesville, Paula (Zeno) Friscioni of Frazier, Michigan, Tom Antonucci of Lyndonville, Vermont, Dominic Antonucci of Birmingham, England, Sarah (David) Ettelman of Shutesbury, Massachusetts, and Ward (Alisia) Mitzel of Columbus, Ohio. Her grandchildren are Caitlin Sullivan; Thomas, Noah, and Emily Antonucci; Millie Antonucci and Miku Antonucci; Leif Maynard and Rosie Ettelman. Great

grandchildren are Emmett and Hadley Santos. She was preceded in death by infant daughter Natalie Antonucci, and her brother-in-law Lawrence “Buddy” Phipps.

Katherine particularly enjoyed her membership in the All-Around Club, her Book Club members, the water aerobics class she taught at the Field House, and friends who loved to read.

A celebration of Katherine’s Life will be held on Wednesday, May 17, from 5 – 8pm at the home, 150 Muskingum Avenue, for those who have known this exceptional woman.

Contributions in Katherine’s memory may be made to the Muskingum County Community Foundation (MCCF) for the Zanesville Prize for Contemporary Ceramics which she co-founded.

Previous Events

A Gathering of Friends and Family

MAY 17. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (AKT)

Her Home

Tribute Wall



“ *Katherine J. Mitzel*

October 06, 2023 at 04:22 AM



“ *Far too early to lose such a wonderful woman who contributed so much to her family, friends and community. With fond memories, Sheila.*

Sheila Hornsby - May 18, 2017 at 05:10 AM



“ *I remember working with her at OUZ. She was an amazing woman who inspired everyone she met. My thoughts and prayers are with you all. Fraya Frampton*

Fraya Frampton - May 14, 2017 at 12:28 PM



“ *I truly treasure the times I had with Katherine. Her good humor, shared wisdom, and entertaining stories enriched me. Ron and I will miss her. Condolences to her loving family and close friends.*

Nancy Harvey - May 14, 2017 at 11:19 AM



“ *All our love Millie and Julie purchased the Divine Peace Bouquet for the family of Katherine J. Mitzel.*



All our love Millie and Julie - May 14, 2017 at 06:36 AM

AH

“ I first met Katherine when I was a student at OUZ and I was lucky enough to maintain contact now and then with her, over the years. From day one, she was always very kind and inviting to me. I truly admired her drive and dedication to causes and activities that touched her heart. My life has been enhanced just by knowing her. I send my heartfelt condolences to her whole family.

~Amanda Hitchcock

Amanda Hitchcock - May 13, 2017 at 11:07 PM

BR

“ I love this picture of Katherine as it shows her love of life, the smile she always had on her face for friends & family! She was a delightful friend through my years here in Zanesville. We shared so many wonderful memories. She included us in her family. I will miss you dear friend!! I must plant a flower in your memory!

Betty L. Russett - May 13, 2017 at 06:58 PM

AW

Such a loss...David, our hearts go out to you.

Annie & Jay Warmke - May 14, 2017 at 12:09 PM

LR

“ Meeting this lady was a wonderful gift to my life. I was so glad I played a part in encouraging her to publish the wonderful stories she remembered from her childhood. What deep imprints and colorful footprints she left on the hearts of people to whom she was so kind and giving. I will always carry her memory in my heart. Linda Regula

Linda Regula - May 13, 2017 at 05:39 PM

CY

“ Prayers with Family and Freinds sent with Love, from Great Nephew Austin , Great Great Nieces Zoey and Melody

Cyndi - May 13, 2017 at 05:07 PM

ST

“ Katherine was always generous with her time when she worked at OUZ. She was particularly helpful in working with and advising students with math anxiety. I valued her advise in working with students. Sending condolences to her family.

Sue Thuma - May 13, 2017 at 10:10 AM