



Dr. Kathleen E. Ott

April 21, 2022

Dr. Kathleen E. Ott, 71, of South Whitehall Township, passed away peacefully on April 21, 2022, surrounded by her beloved family. She was the daughter of the late William M. and Mary Jane (Bortz) Mackes. She was the former wife of Robert S. Ott of Dingmans Ferry. Kathy led an amazing life, had a rewarding career in education, and was devoted to her family. She graduated from the William Allen High School where she was an accomplished majorette who spun flaming batons. She went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education from the Kutztown University of Pennsylvania in 1986 and began her professional career as a high school biology teacher at Lehigh Career & Technical Institute. In 1990 she was awarded a Master of Education/Secondary Education in Biology from Lehigh University. In 2001, she received a Doctor of Educational Leadership and Administration from Widener University. After serving as the assistant principal at Pottsgrove Senior High School, she went on to become an assistant principal at the Emmaus High School in the East Penn School District from 1993 to 1999. In 1999, she was named as Northampton Area High School's principal, a position she held until 2007. From 2007 to 2020, she was Northampton Area School District's Director of Data, Grants, and Special Programs, where she secured millions in competitive grants for the district, including Keystones to Opportunity, the Keystone Head Start and Pre-K Counts programs, and Washington's Crossing, among countless others. During her tenure at Northampton Area, Kathy established the district's alumni directory and was a

founder of Northampton Konkrete Kids Education Foundation. Dr. Ott formally retired on December 31, 2020.

Kathy was a member of the New Covenant Christian Community Church, Macungie. She was a member of the Rotary Club of Allentown West, where she facilitated Snackpacking at the Parkland High School, providing nutritional foods to students in need. Dr. Ott sat on the board of directors of Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association in the late 1980's and most recently on the board of directors of the Parkland Education Foundation. She was an avid baker, creating multi-layered confections for birthdays, weddings, community events, hospice care and homeless shelters, and as thank-you's to agencies such as the South Whitehall Township Police Department. She was the self-published author of the whimsical Casinos, Capers, and Cakes: Hitting the Jackpot of Love and Adventures in Atlantic City. She will be remembered as a faithful servant of the Lord and as a loving, devoted mother, grandmother, aunt, sister and friend.

Dr. Ott is survived by her siblings Thomas J. Mackes (wifeCarolynne), Corinne Emmett, and Jody Gehringer; sons Robert S., II, (wife Lisa), Michael B. (wife Cindy), Stephen J. (wife Suzanne) and daughter Jacqueline S. Mohr (husband John). She was blessed with eight grandchildren who meant the world to her: Mikayla, Darci, Lindsay, Sydney, Addison, Robert, Elizabeth, and Jacob; along with two nieces and four nephews along with their families.

Memorial Services to be held 10:00 AM, Thursday, April 28 at New Covenant Christian Community Church, 126 S Church St, Macungie. Calling will be held 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM, Wednesday, April 27 at Trexler Funeral Home, 1625 W. Highland St., Allentown and Thursday, 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM at church. Private burial arrangements will immediately follow the church service.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made in her name to either Rotary Club of Allentown West or Family Promise of Lehigh Valley, c/o the funeral home.

Previous Events

Calling

APR **27**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Trexler Funeral Home
1625 Highland Street
Allentown, PA 18102
(610) 434-9616
info@trexlerfh.com
<https://trexlerfuneralhome.com/>

Calling

APR **28**. 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (ET)

New Covenant Christian Community Church
126 S. Church St.
Macungie, PA 18062

Memorial Service

APR **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

New Covenant Christian Community Church
126 S. Church St.
Macungie, PA 18062

Tribute Wall

MM

“ *Rest in Peace, Dear Kathy Ott! Never was there a more special person. Grateful for the time when my children's and your children's lives overlapped so sweetly. So many cherished memories of happy times. We were so blessed to have known you! Thank you for being you.*

Milou Mackenzie

Milou Mackenzie - April 29, 2022 at 02:48 PM

DT

“ *My deepest condolences on Kathy's passing. I hope the past 1 1/2 years were enjoyable for her in retirement. May she rest in peace. Heaven will certainly enjoy her cakes!*

*Donna Teklits
NASD Co-Worker*

Donna Teklits - April 27, 2022 at 03:24 PM

SW

*My condolences to the family of the lovely lady Kathy was. May she forever rest in peace in her everlasting life with our Lord Jesus 🙏
Sincerely, Susan Wanamaker.*

Susan Wanamaker - April 29, 2022 at 04:04 AM

JR

“ I am so sorry to see that Kathy has left us. She was a good friend to me when I was on the Northampton School Board. I first met her when my children were in high school. I know we talked alot about her cakes that she baked. My son was baking cakes and decided to stop baking them. He said I should ask Kathy if she wanted the designed pans. We told her if she didn't want them to just give them away. I certainly will miss her. She crossed my mind so often since I left the school board. My sincere condolences go to your entire family. Jean K Rundle

Jean K Rundle - April 26, 2022 at 08:47 PM



“ Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Dr. Kathleen E. Ott.



April 26, 2022 at 12:05 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Dr. Kathleen E. Ott.



April 26, 2022 at 10:45 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Dr. Kathleen E. Ott.*



April 25, 2022 at 03:48 PM



“ *4/26/22
To Kathy's family & friends...I remember Kathy from her previous life as a dedicated mother & wife; , her later role in an outstanding career & her love for her grandchildren.
Rest In Peace Dear Kathy...you will be missed by many! Susan
(Giaquinto) Kern*

Susan (Giaquinto) Kern - April 25, 2022 at 02:05 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Dr. Kathleen E. Ott.*



April 25, 2022 at 12:08 PM



“ *With Distinction was purchased for the family of Dr. Kathleen E. Ott.*



April 25, 2022 at 10:56 AM

GM

“ I have been blessed to know Kathy as a dedicated Rotarian, a generous friend, a wise advisor and a faithful Christian. She always made time in her busy life for a cup of coffee and a long, interesting conversation. Every time I left her home, I was filled with awe and admiration for the wonderful woman she was and the fascinating life she led. In our short time together, she has impacted my life in many ways and I will miss her dearly. My deepest condolences to her family at this very difficult time. She was a gift to this world and will be missed by so many.

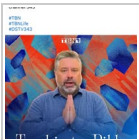
Gail Micca

Gail Micca - April 24, 2022 at 10:11 PM

JM

“ Kathy was a member of our church, New Covenant Christian Community Church (NC4) in Macungie. My wife and I got to know her through a prayer group she led. This past Christmas she invited our members to her home for a wonderful time of fellowship, food and laughter. No one decorates for Christmas like Kathy! She turns her home into Christmas beauty and splendor. We also got to sample one of her famed homemade delicious cakes. But in our relative short time of a couple years knowing Kathy, we witnessed her love for all she came into contact with, family, friends, the education community, and countless others. She was simply there for you. She was so full of life and caring. She leaves such a rich imprint that her legacy remains alive among us until we see her again with our Heavenly Father. She was a blessing to many!

John Moser - April 24, 2022 at 06:21 PM



“ I didn't get a chance to meet and get to know Kathy until just a few years ago, but once I did, I adored her. I will greatly miss her. A good friend.

Michael Kotch - April 23, 2022 at 09:35 AM

GC

“ We are praying for Kathy's family as this must be a difficult time for you. Kathy was our shining star of the Rotary District 7430 STEM YEA team. She is greatly missed!

Gwenn Carr - April 23, 2022 at 09:26 AM



“ Kathy was such a loving caring women.. We have shared stories for the past 27 years.. The good and the bad I feel as though we have been through so much together throughout the y are.. She will be missed greatly.. She loved her family so very much.. I had the pleasure of staying at her beach home which she loved and I will always feel honored to have known her and was part of so much of her wonderful life.. so sorry for your families loss...What made Kathy happy was knowing her children and grandchildren were happy..She will be smiling down on you all..

Angela Gregory - April 22, 2022 at 04:56 PM