



Caroleen Rishko

DEC 17, 1944 - MAR 27, 2025



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



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CAROLEEN “KERRY” ANNE RISHKO, DEVOTED WIFE & MOTHER
Caroleen “Kerry” Rishko, 80, of Lewes, DE, died peacefully surrounded by her family on Thursday, March 27th, 2025. She was born December 17, 1944, in Allentown Hospital, to the late John and Anna (Vanitsky) Romanic. Kerry lived with her family for most of her life in Whitehall, PA, and later, in Columbia, SC. In 1963, she met the love of her life, Richard Rishko, while dancing at the Castle Rock Dance Hall on a Saturday night in Allentown, PA, at what is now Dorney Park. Richard and Kerry would continue their courtship and meet every Saturday, dancing to the likes of Bobby Darin, Buddy Holly, and Frankie Valli, who would perform at the dance hall after appearing on American Bandstand in Philadelphia. Later that year, Richard joined the Navy and moved to California, while Kerry worked as a hairdresser at Hess’s Department Store in Allentown, PA. She waited faithfully for her love until he returned home in late 1965, and they got married soon after on January 8, 1966. In February 1966, they drove across the country back to California, where they lived for a few years in San Leandro and Alameda before returning east to live in Egypt and Fullerton, PA. They eventually settled on Coplay Lane in Whitehall (Hokendauqua), PA, where they started and raised their family. In 1988, Richard and Kerry moved to South Carolina until their recent move to Lewes, DE. Early in their family life, Kerry was a fierce supporter of her children’s athletics and enjoyed attending games and taking care of all of her kids’ friends. She volunteered much of her time at places like St. Peter’s Catholic Church and the Hokendauqua Little League. She cooked many meals and ran the house with a wooden spoon in her hand. She loved making ethnic foods, like holubki, pierogies, and Ukrainian holiday meals, and her good cooking will be missed. Kerry embraced the “Southern” lifestyle and looked forward to her work at Bob Capes Realtors and as an executive secretary for BCBS, where she met amazing people and made lifelong friendships.



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She was passionate about decorating and updating the different houses she lived in and always kept a clean home. In addition to her family, she loved her Yorkshire Terrier dogs, who would always be sitting next to her, waiting for a treat. She enjoyed attending both of her children's sporting events and going to dinners with close friends. She was never far from her next shopping excursion, always looking for her next pair of shoes. She spoiled her family with gifts and clothes that she wanted them to have. She loved traveling and seeing new places. She and her husband drove across the country twice and visited many places, including Alaska, New Orleans, and Russia.

One of Kerry's greatest joys was spending time with her children and grandchildren at home or on family vacations. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Richard; two children: son John (Nelia) Rishko and daughter Kerryanne (Eric) Narvaez; and six grandchildren: Finbar Rishko, Ella Rishko, Lulu Rishko, Mairead Rishko, Gabrielle Narvaez, and Evan Narvaez.

The family would like to thank Kerry's dedicated South Carolina and Pennsylvania friends, along with her many dear cousins and aunts, who faithfully kept in touch and supported her throughout her life. They would also like to thank John's Rehoboth "family," who always included Kerry and Richard in their holiday and family events.

Services will be private for the convenience of the family.

Please sign the tribute wall located on this page.



Tribute Wall

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NS

Nikkii Simpson posted:

I missed Kerry and Richard when they moved to Lewes, but phone calls kept us in touch. We talked of old times here in Columbia and laughed a lot! Brenda said it all about how Kerry was. She loved Richard dearly and he took such good care of her. She was my only friend that never had to call a repairman! Her family meant the world to her and her grands were the light of her life. May Kerry rest in peace. Comfort and prayers to Richard. Nikkii

April 3 at 9:09 AM

PR

Peggy Ray posted:

Kerry was always such a wonderful person. She will always be in my heart. We would share all our troubles and laugh about some of the situations we have shared. I'll remember the many lunches we had shared at Blue Cross. I know she loved her dear husband completely. Richard has been her partner forever and they supported each other. Rest in peace dear friend. I will always love you and miss you so much. I know your family will miss you every day and may they have comfort in knowing that you were loved by many. Love forever, your friend Peggy Ray. THANKS for your friendship!

April 2 at 5:37 AM

MR

Marie Repko posted:

Richard , John, Kerryanne and family ... So sorry for your loss ... so many wonderful memories to bring you comfort at this time...I have so many wonderful memories as well... she is with her Chocies/Aunts Uncles and cousins who have gone before her resting in Gods Heavenly Kingdom ...In our thoughts and prayers ...RIP Kerry Marie (Kochanasz) and Seth Repko (Cousin)

April 1 at 2:39 PM

DP

Doris Person lit a candle in honor of Caroleen.



April 1 at 1:21 PM



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Barbara Brewer & Mary Maxey posted:

We will miss our backyard fence chats with Kerry. What a classy, kind, engaging, beautiful and delightful neighbor she was to us in Lewes. She and Richard have been the best neighbors we've had in decades and we offer our sincerest condolences to all who loved her.

April 1 at 12:41 PM



Ben Williams lit a candle in honor of Caroleen.



April 1 at 9:37 AM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Caroleen by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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