



Nancy Katz

July 7, 1942 - July 3, 2021

Nancy Katz, 78, of Rehoboth Beach died peacefully at her home surrounded by her loving family July 3, 2021, after a long and courageous battle with ovarian cancer. She was born on July 7, 1942 in Norwood, Mass., to the late Anthony and Pauline Nado. Her brother Frank Nado died this year.

Nancy was the devoted wife of Dr. Mayer M. Katz, who established the vascular surgery program at Beebe Healthcare and was the founder of Delaware Bay Surgical Service in Lewes. She was a loving mother to Pamela Katz Jensen of Princeton, N.J, and Stephen Katz of Chicago, Ill.; son-in-law Eric Jensen, and daughter in-law Molly Kinsella Katz; and grandchildren: Garret Jensen of San Francisco, Calif., Sophie Jensen of New York, N.Y., and Eliza Katz of Chicago.

Nancy held a bachelor of arts degree (cum laude) in English Composition from Beloit College, Beloit, Wis., which greatly enhanced her abilities in being the successful author of "Notes from the Beach" and as a longtime columnist for the Cape Gazette feature titled About Town, entertaining readers with her humorous and satirical writing style on life in a resort town. She loved working for the Cape Gazette, and her legions of loyal fans loved reading her takes on topics ranging from daylight saving time to summer romance, gardening to geezerhood, political mayhem, modern technology and nostalgic memories of times gone by.

"Our dear Nancy has been with us since we first published the Cape Gazette in 1993. Through thick and thin, Nancy composed pithy, poignant and truly hilarious columns we could all relate to, living in the Cape Region and elsewhere. Her favorite themes were grandchildren and their dogs, pesky overnight guests, absurd family reunions, patriotic holiday themes, and, of course, crazy local traffic. We will never be able to replace Nancy's Around Town column in this newspaper or in our hearts, but she will continue to be our biggest cheerleader from above as we move forward," said Trish Vernon, co-publisher and editor

Cape Gazette Publisher Emeritus Dennis Forney noted Nancy's longtime influence on the

paper. “With Nancy’s death, we’ve lost one of the cornerstones of the Gazette’s durable lineup of columnists who have shaped the paper’s personality for decades. Her voice and well-crafted writing have been steadily authentic, fresh, and dependably timely.”

Nancy and Mayer met when she was a nursing student at Mount Auburn Hospital School of Nursing in Cambridge, Mass., where she received her RN degree. Mayer, who was a surgical resident, was assisting in an open-heart surgery and Nancy was the surgical cardiac nurse. He noticed her blue eyes above her surgical mask, thus blossomed a marriage that would last 58 years. Nancy was devoted and loyal to Mayer's long and exciting surgical career, which took him from Massachusetts to California to Vietnam to Wisconsin, and finally, Rehoboth Beach.

Nancy was a warrior against cancer, having successfully battled breast cancer, and then finally ovarian cancer, which ultimately took her life. She loved being involved with the community through art, gardening, friends, her neighborhood and volunteering. Her passions were watercolor painting, gardening, writing, reading mysteries, and working the New York Times crossword puzzle.

In Nancy's neighborhood, she started a Caring Committee where she would personally visit those in need, provide meals, run errands or just send a simple get-well card. She coordinated this work up until her death, thinking of others.

Her many community involvements including being a Court Appointed Special Advocate for abused and neglected children in Sussex County; serving on the board of directors of the Sussex Gardeners and Rehoboth Beach Yacht & Country Club Homeowners Association; co-chairing the Thanksgiving Ball at Beebe Medical Center for 16 years, and originating the Beebe Holiday of Lights fundraiser. She was an active volunteer with the Salvation Army Store, Lewes-Rehoboth Meals on Wheels, and the Delaware Ovarian Cancer Foundation and Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition.

Nancy was a member of the DeVries Business and Professional Women’s Club and was named its Woman of the Year in 2005, honoring her many contributions to the community. She was a member of Cape Artists and Rehoboth Art League, as well as Friends of the Rehoboth Beach Public Library. She was honored with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society Friend of the Delaware Chapter Award and the Marcia Marvel Award. She was also a member of the Lewes Yacht Club and the Rehoboth Beach Country Club.

Nancy loved spending time with her three grandchildren, painting, and doing arts and crafts. She was caring and thoughtful, and had a great sense of humor. She was a fighter until the end with her cancer.

Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11 a.m., Tuesday, July 20, at St. Edmond Catholic Church, 409 King Charles Ave., Rehoboth Beach.

Masks and social distancing are suggested at all aspects of the funeral services.

In lieu of flowers, kindly consider gifts to the Children's Beach House, 1800 Bay Ave., Lewes, DE 19958, <http://www.cbhinc.org/get-involved/donate>, or to your favorite charity of choice.

Please sign Nancy's virtual guestbook located on the tribute page.

Cemetery

Events

St. Peter's Cemetery JUL

Pilottown Road

Lewes, DE,

20

Mass of Christian Burial

11:00AM

St. Edmond Catholic Church

409 King Charles Avenue, Rehoboth Beach, DE, US, 19971

Comments



“ Nancy Katz

I was one of many children that Nancy took under her wing. My time with Nancy and her magnificent family spanned over decades where she gave me many meals, rides, lessons, endless sleepovers with her kids, a tetanus shot after a hamster bite ... you name it, Nancy was there for me. On the days when I doubted myself, Nancy's voice was ingrained in my brain repeating "you're very bright Jennifer Lyn" (even though it wasn't my name). She never made me feel like a houseguest or a burden when I had nowhere to go, which I can only fully appreciate now as a mother myself. Nancy protected my childhood when my own family could not. She instilled her special brand of wit and humor in all of us and a lifelong appreciation for "I Love Lucy" episodes. As a young adult needing direction, she mailed me her paralegal books and pretty much insisted that I go to law school. She was a true renaissance woman, reinventing herself through the years excelling at anything she tried, nursing, tennis, legal work, writing, painting, community service, motherhood. She had great style, along with unmatched generosity and compassion. I'm heartbroken at her passing but forever grateful that I landed in this angel's arms long ago. Much love to Dr. Katz, Pam and Stephen.

Jennifer

PS If Nancy could see us she'd make us laugh and exclaim "get over it!"

jennifer ryan - July 20 at 11:36 AM



“ Dear Mayer, Pam, & Stephen,
So sorry for your loss. Nancy was a real cornerstone of strength & had a generous, caring spirit. She left a memorable legacy.

Nancy, I loved you like a sister.

Farewell my dear friend, until we meet again.

Love 🐾

Catherine DiMatteo

Catherine DiMatteo - July 19 at 10:25 PM



“ To Mayer and family, we are saddened to learn of Nancy’s passing, and send our condolences. Although we did not spend much time with Nancy in recent years, Sturges enjoyed painting with her in The Cape Artists, we both enjoyed reading her column, and on occasions when we bumped into her in town, found her to be the same warm, gracious, generous person we met years ago. We also, when inquiring about her health, were inspired and moved by her responses, which seemed full of acceptance, positivity and humor. Truly, a lady.
Sturges Dodge and Tom Evans

Sturges Dodge - July 13 at 12:08 PM



“ My deepest sympathy to Nancy’s family. I’m so sorry for your loss and just wanted to say how much I enjoyed Nancy’s column in the Cape Gazette. I loved her view of our beach life, her wit, and words of wisdom. Nancy will be so missed by family, friends and folks she never knew. May she Rest In Peace and may her family find comfort.
Linda Miller
Lewes, DE

Linda Miller - July 11 at 01:16 PM



“ I never knew Nancy but I read her column every week in the Cape Gazette. I did not know she was ill and it was a real shock when I read the article that she had passed on. I will truly miss her articles. God bless her family and rest in peace, Nancy.

Nancy Hambric
Lewes, De

Nancy Hambric - July 10 at 03:58 PM



“ Dear Mayer and family: I feel such a loss without Nancy. We met when you moved to the beach and I was fortunate to meet her. We became friends immediately and we shared so many wonderful things together. She liked helping people and was always willing to do anything you ask of her. Nancy was always positive and made you laugh.

What a great talent with her writing and painting. I am going to miss her. I send my prays to the family. Love, Betty Mann-Beebe

Betty Mann-Beebe - July 06 at 04:28 PM



“ Dear Mayer,
So very sorry to hear about Nancy. It's been many years but we were always sharing good times and shenanigans.
Susan

Susan Rogers Cutchall - July 16 at 10:27 PM



“ Mayer,
I am very saddened to learn of Nancy's passing. I will miss her columns in the Gazette as well as the memories of knowing her for many years. May God Bless you and your family.
Mike Clemmer

Mike Clemmer - July 19 at 01:00 PM