



## Kathleen Ann Baumgart

April 29, 1949 - July 19, 2018

Kathleen Ann (Kathy) Baumgart, beloved mother, sister, aunt was called to the Sacred Heart and Loving Arms of our Lord Jesus Christ on July 19th, 2018, following a lengthy battle with osteomyelitis and cancer.

Kathy was born April 29, 1949, in Livingston, Montana, to John Harvey and Victoria Baumgart, both deceased.

She is survived by her three beloved sons, John James Sebelien, Portland, OR, Paul Andrew Sebelien, (Tyler), Seattle, WA, and Mark Stephen Sebelien, Pasco, WA, her four 'little sisters', Janice Rerucha (Calvin), Laramie, WY, Patricia Baumgart, Missoula, MT, Deborah Gruel, (James), Great Falls, MT, Virginia Michaelson, (Philip), Colorado Springs, CO, her nieces and nephews, Luke and Max Rerucha, Christopher Gruel, Daniel, Victoria and Elizabeth Michaelson.

Kathy was a beautiful and brilliant woman, she grew up in Great Falls, Montana where she graduated from Charles M Russell High School in 1967, she earned a Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry from Montana State University in 1971, and a Master's Degree in Analytical Biochemistry in 1976. After moving to Pasco, she worked as a Research Scientist for Battelle Northwest and as a Teacher of Algebra and Chemistry at Columbia Basin College.

At the tender age of 22, Kathy suffered a horrific car accident that left her paralyzed, she remained in a wheelchair for the last 47 years of her life. Kathy embraced this day as a second birthday and celebrated that anniversary each year. She saw her wheelchair as an opportunity to educate others and loved the questions about her paralysis from children who, unlike more inhibited adults, were eager to know and unafraid to ask how and why she could not walk.

The role that Kathy cherished most was mother. Her three sons were the light of her life! She devoted her life to them. Kathy was a devout, actively involved Catholic. Her faith kept her strong, and she had an independent, adventuresome and carefree spirit and an

eternally forgiving heart. She had the greatest courage in all matters, even to the end of her full and rich life. She inspired her sisters and throughout her life's journey, the close-knit family encouraged one another, shared triumphs and tragedy, laughed and cried together. Kathy touched all who were fortunate to know her. She will be deeply missed!

Rosary will be Friday, August 3rd, at 7:00 PM, Mueller's Tri-Cities Funeral Home, Kennewick.

Mass of Christian Burial will be at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, Pasco, on August 4th at 11:00 AM. Inurnment and Luncheon to follow.

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to the Christopher Reeves Foundation at <https://www.christopherreeve.org/> or other charity of your choice.

# Cemetery

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# Events

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**Desert Lawn Memorial Park**  
1401 S. Union St  
Kennewick, WA, 99338

**AUG**  
**3**

**Rosary**

07:00PM

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Mueller's Tri-Cities Funeral Home  
1401 S. Union Street, Kennewick, WA, US, 99338

**AUG**  
**4**

**Mass**

11:00AM

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St. Patrick's Catholic Church  
1320 W Henry, Pasco, WA, US, 99301

# Comments

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“ Kathy was a senior when I was a junior at CMR High School in Great Falls. I always SO admired her and looked up to her. She was truly a class leader in every way and was respected and loved by teachers and classmates. I will never forget her beautiful smile, intelligence, and kindness. She was absolutely outstanding in everything--academics, student government, royalty, and many other activities . . . and was a friend to all. I look forward to seeing her again--what a glorious reunion that will be with friends and family! My heartfelt sympathy and prayers to all of you. Cheryl (Olson) Beck

**Cheryl (Olson) Beck** - August 19, 2018 at 10:13 PM

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“ We were fast friends since junior high. Kathy was beautiful, brilliant, and brave. I was privileged to know her. My faith informs me that we will see her again.

Grant Lamphere

**Grant Lamphere** - August 04, 2018 at 12:46 PM

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“ I met Kathy when she first arrived at Richland and our offices were next to each other and very near the PSL shops. Kathy was the sweetheart of the craft services department, and the shops guys kept us with our fill of popcorn. Dick and I socialized with Kathy and Don while she was at PNNL, losing track of each other afterward as our lives went in different directions. I visited her during a hospital stay at Kadlec some years ago and had the opportunity to catch up with the news in our lives. Kathy was bright, talented, and very outgoing, and I enjoyed our friendship very much.

Condolences to the family.

Mary Ann Parkhurst (McDonald)

**MaryAnn McDonald** - July 31, 2018 at 04:54 PM

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“ I was Kathy's lady banker at her Credit Union! I will sure miss all her calls. Some days it was multiple calls but she knew she was in good hands over the phone! She was a friend for 20 years!

**Trina Gentry** - July 30, 2018 at 08:54 PM

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“ We met Kathy as members of the Richland Ski Club in the 1980s where she would participate in various social activities. Although we since moved around the US, we had the good fortune to see her again occasionally when we returned to the Tri Cities. We will remember her as an outgoing and energetic person who was always positive. She was a role model for us all.  
Tony and Kristy Umek

**Tony Umek** - July 29, 2018 at 11:57 AM

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“ I am a friend of Kathy's youngest sister Ginny. We were quite a few years younger than Kathy but I remember she always treated me with respect and was always so kind to me. I was in awe of her as she was so pretty and smart, so being kind was amazing to me. She was such an inspiration to everyone that knew her. She will be missed.

**Gayle Henderson Jacoby** - July 28, 2018 at 09:42 PM

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“ John, Paul and Mark sorry for your loss. I remember as a child she would come and visit and I would clean and polish her wheelchair. She would always get a kick out of how clean I could get it. ~love Jay and Jean Sebelien

**Jay Sebelien** - July 28, 2018 at 04:02 PM