



Kathleen Bethel Cuccio

August 22, 1933 - September 24, 2024

Kathleen Bethel (Sweetman) Cuccio passed away on September 24, 2024, in Racine, surrounded by loved ones. She was 91.

Kathy's life story was centered around family, beginning with Joe Cuccio, the love of her life. They first met on the Sixth Street bridge in Racine when she was a teenager. Kathy loved to recall their encounter, where Joe, a friend of a friend, introduced himself dressed in a striking blue coat. She would often say, "He was the most handsome man I ever saw." Kathy and Joe wed at Holy Communion Lutheran Church in Racine on June 27, 1952. Over the next nine years, they welcomed four children—Joe, Joleen, Jon, and Joan.

The couple's love for family extended beyond their home in Racine. They began spending time in northern Wisconsin, eventually acquiring a small cabin that became the heart of family life for decades. While Joe relished life outdoors, Kathy treasured their time together exploring new places. She particularly cherished their travels to Alaska, Ireland, and Scotland.

As the matriarch of a growing family, Kathy doted on her grandchildren—and later, her great-grandchildren. She reveled in holidays and birthdays, seizing every opportunity to gather everyone for a meal. By every measure that mattered to her, her life was full and vibrant. Her 57-year marriage to Joe, until his passing in 2009, was a testament to their enduring bond. In her final moments, her family played the couple's love songs to comfort her: during the chorus of "On a Slow Boat to China," Kathy took her last breath.

Kathy was preceded in death by her loving husband, Joseph Cuccio; her

parents, George and Bethel (Pottinger) Sweetman; her three brothers and their wives: James (Arlene) Sweetman, Thomas (Cora) Sweetman, and Jack (Rita) Sweetman; and her nephews and niece, Thomas Sweetman, Ricky Cuccio, and Erin (Sweetman) Kovach.

She is survived by her children: Joe (Mary Ann) Cuccio, Joleen (Jim) Carlson, Jon (Sue) Cuccio, and Joan (Kevin) Watson; her grandchildren: Courtney (Matt Baker) Carlson, Nicole (Brett) Hauch, Lauren (Chris) Konicek, Andrew DeGroot, Jacob (Zorica) DeGroot, Gina Cuccio, and Jessica Watson; and her great-grandchildren: Jack and Nolan Hauch, Charlie and Eli Konicek, Jazziah and Serenity Watson, Siena Baker, and Ema DeGroot. She also leaves behind her brother-in-law Richard (LoEtta) Cuccio, sister-in-law Margaret Cuccio, and their families. A loving circle of extended family and dear friends will miss her dearly.

A visitation will be held on Tuesday, October 1, from 3-5 p.m., at Holy Communion Lutheran Church, with a funeral service immediately following. She will be laid to rest in a private ceremony. The family wishes to thank the staff at St. Monica's Senior Living for their care and compassion. Memorial donations may be made to Holy Communion Lutheran Church, 2000 West Sixth Street, Racine, WI 53405; Pedal for Alzheimer's, 714 S Gay St #200, Knoxville, TN 37902; or St. Monica's, 3920 N Green Bay Rd, Racine, WI 53404.

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT 1. 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM (CT)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 W. 6th Street
Racine, WI

Funeral Service

OCT 1. 5:00 PM (CT)

Holy Communion Lutheran Church
2000 W. 6th Street
Racine, WI

Tribute Wall



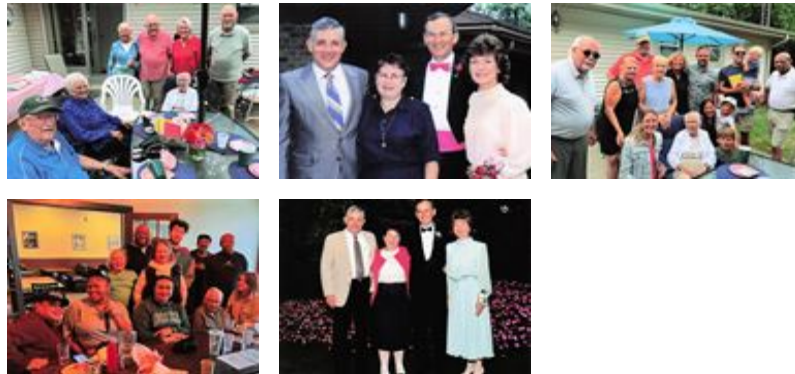
“ *Sturino Funeral Home created a Tribute Video in memory of Kathleen Bethel Cuccio*



Sturino Funeral Home - September 28, 2024 at 05:00 PM



“ *5 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - September 30, 2024 at 10:57 AM

KB

Dear Joe, I am so sorry to read of your Mother's passing. Please accept my condolences. I am in Africa, else I would see you at the visitation. Kenton Burki

Kenton Burki - October 01, 2024 at 01:36 AM

GW

*As you gather today to say goodbye to your dear loved one we offer our prayers of comfort and sympathy. May you be surrounded by God's loving arms and cherish the memories you hold in your hearts.
Sincerely, Gary and Kathy*

Gary/Kathy Wee - October 01, 2024 at 01:11 PM

MS

Joe, my condolences to you and your family on your mother's passing. May you find comfort in your memories that remain in your heart.

Mark Stanton - October 01, 2024 at 03:05 PM

DR

*Joan and Kevin and family, peace and love to you and your family. Your mother was a beautiful woman and we know she was loved. We will miss her at St. Monica's.
Our sympathies,
Paul and Dori Rossmann*

Dori Rossmann - October 01, 2024 at 05:48 PM

LS

“ *Love, Jill and Sandy purchased the Sweet Tender
ness for the family of Kathleen Bethel Cuccio.*



Love, Jill and Sandy - September 29, 2024 at 02:05 PM



“ *So sorry to hear about your mom. Take care. Sue Hammel*

Sue Hammel - September 29, 2024 at 10:24 AM

JD

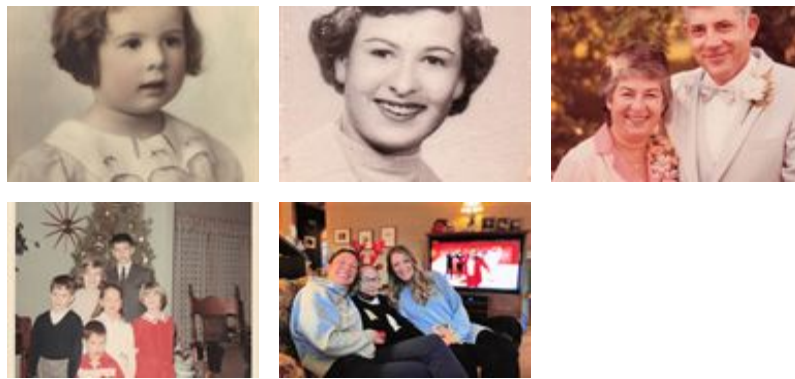
“ *My condolences to the entire family.*

*Jim Daly
Eagle River, WI*

Jim Daly - September 29, 2024 at 06:27 AM



“ *86 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Sturino Funeral Home - September 28, 2024 at 12:55 PM

LC

“ *Dear Joleen and Family,
Thoughts and prayers being sent in honor of
your mother. I have fond memories of meeting
her and you back at Mothers Day Out. My
sincere sympathies to all of you.
Laurel Celeste*



Laurel Celeste - September 28, 2024 at 03:19 AM