



Iona Kathleen "Kathy" Diel

October 17, 1939 - June 19, 2024

Iona Kathleen Murphy Diel, 84, of Searcy, died June 19, 2024, at White County Medical Center. She was born October 17, 1939, in Lebanon, Missouri, to the late William and Phoebe Murphy.

Kathy is survived by sons Stan Diel of Florence, S.C., and Scott Diel of Tallinn, Estonia; grandson Uko Robert Diel; sister Pat Simmons of Springfield, Mo.; and brother Milen Murphy of Ballwin, Missouri.

She was a graduate of St. John's School of Nursing in Springfield and retired after a long career as a registered nurse working in hospitals, industry, and at Lowery Medical-Surgical Eye Center in Searcy. Kathy took up fly fishing to spend more time with her sons and became a fixture on the Little Red River, where she taught a number of young women to cast and demonstrated a feminist streak when slighted by male guides or fishermen. She was an accomplished teller of stories who loved to play bridge and was a regular in games everywhere she lived.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks for consideration of donations to the American Cancer Society: www.cancer.org, or a charity of your choice.

A memorial service will be held on Thursday, June 27, 2024, at 11:00am, at Trinity Episcopal Church in Searcy.

Arrangements are entrusted to Powell Funeral Home of Searcy. www.powellfuneralhome.net

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 27. 11:00 AM (CT)

Trinity Parish Church (Episcopal)
200 North Elm Street
Searcy, AR 72143

Tribute Wall

PW

“ Kathy was an “old school” nurse; one who held to high standards for those under her care. Her attention to detail resulted in the release of a young woman, who had been mistakenly institutionalized. That grateful patient stayed in touch with Kathy over many years. Kathy was fiercely devoted to her boys and especially her beloved grandson. She was a hardworker and an esteemed coworker. She was playful, funny, and a great friend.

Patty Wilson - June 27, 2024 at 10:55 AM

BD

“ I remember having the Diel family move to Searcy AR. They were so nice to work with and were a great family to have in this town.

Barbara S Duncan - June 26, 2024 at 03:28 PM

PW

“ Kathy was a fun and loyal friend. She will be missed.

Patty Wilson - June 24, 2024 at 12:59 PM