



A. Jean Kopka

August 22, 2020

Alice Jean Kopka (Yourick), was a "fighter" to the end.

A dedicated wife and proud mother of 2 children and 6 grandchildren, Jean was born and raised in Pittsburgh. She married Joseph Kopka 1 year to the date after their first date at Kennywood Park over 63 years ago. Jean and Joe lived in Pittsburgh briefly before moving to Elizabeth City, NC for Joe's job as a Revenue Agent. They moved frequently in NC and GA because of Joe's job, but in 1973 the family relocated to Woodbridge, VA. Jean's career began in Pittsburgh as a secretary for J&L Steel Mill, shifted to Regional Manager of Welcome Wagon, then Department of Energy, then Assistant to the Director of Communications at the Republican National Committee (RNC) where she also worked at two political conventions during the Reagan presidency.

Jean loved antiques. But more than antiques, Jean loved people. That combination blossomed into the opening of her antique shop in downtown Fredericksburg in the early 1980s: JJ's Treasures. Everyone who met Jean, loved Jean.

Jean is survived by her husband Joseph; daughter Sherrie (Lionel) and grandchildren Lucy Boyce, Amelia (Burt), and Garland; son Kenneth (Barbara), and grandchildren Kameron, Ryan, and Macallister.

Due to COVID 19, a small family memorial service was held at Quantico on September 1, 2020. Memorial donations can be made to "VCC" mailed to VITAS Healthcare, 1604 Spring Hill Rd, Suite 450, Vienna, VA 22182, or Elizabethan Gardens or The Lost Colony in the Outer Banks of NC (the family's favorite vacation spot).

Cemetery Details

Quantico National Cemetery

18424 Joplin Rd
Triangle, VA 22172

Tribute Wall

SK

“Sooner or later we all quote our mothers. That kind of wisdom never dies.

SKK - April 03 at 03:01 PM

SK

“Christmas crab cakes just aren't the same with your!

SKK - December 28, 2025 at 02:00 PM



“5 years seems like forever.

"Love as powerful as your mother's for you leaves it's own mark. To have been loved so deeply, even though the person who loved us is gone, will give us some protection forever."

(Albus Dumbledore, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone)

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - August 22, 2025 at 08:13 AM



“ Happy 92nd birthday!!

*i carry your heart with me(i carry it in
my heart)i am never without it(anywhere
i go you go,my dear;and whatever is done
by only me is your doing,my darling)
i fear
no fate(for you are my fate,my sweet)i want
no world(for beautiful you are my world,my true)
and it's you are whatever a moon has always meant
and whatever a sun will always sing is you*

*here is the deepest secret nobody knows
(here is the root of the root and the bud of the bud
and the sky of the sky of a tree called life;which grows
higher than soul can hope or mind can hide)
and this is the wonder that's keeping the stars apart*

*i carry your heart(i carry it in my heart)
eecummings*

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - May 06, 2025 at 08:26 AM



“ Are there crab cakes in Heaven?

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - November 25, 2024 at 08:42 AM



“When God Created Mothers”

When the Good Lord was creating mothers, He was into His sixth day of "overtime" when the angel appeared and said. "You're doing a lot of fiddling around on this one."

And God said, "Have you read the specs on this order?" She has to be completely washable, but not plastic. Have 180 moveable parts...all replaceable. Run on black coffee and leftovers. Have a lap that disappears when she stands up. A kiss that can cure anything from a broken leg to a disappointed love affair. And six pairs of hands."

The angel shook her head slowly and said. "Six pairs of hands.... no way."

It's not the hands that are causing me problems," God remarked, "it's the three pairs of eyes that mothers have to have."

That's on the standard model?" asked the angel. God nodded.

One pair that sees through closed doors when she asks, 'What are you kids doing in there?' when she already knows. Another here in the back of her head that sees what she shouldn't but what she has to know, and of course the ones here in front that can look at a child when he goofs up and say. 'I understand and I love you' without so much as uttering a word."

God," said the angel touching his sleeve gently, "Get some rest tomorrow...."

I can't," said God, "I'm so close to creating something so close to myself. Already I have one who heals herself when she is sick...can feed a family of six on one pound of hamburger...and can get a nine year old to stand under a shower."

The angel circled the model of a mother very slowly. "It's too soft," she sighed.

But tough!" said God excitedly. "You can imagine what this mother can do or endure."

Can it think?"

Not only can it think, but it can reason and compromise," said the Creator.

Finally, the angel bent over and ran her finger across the cheek.

There's a leak," she pronounced. "I told You that You were trying to put too much into this model."

It's not a leak," said the Lord, "It's a tear."

What's it for?"

It's for joy, sadness, disappointment, pain, loneliness, and pride."

You are a genius, " said the angel.

Somberly, God said, "I didn't put it there."

— Erma Bombeck, When God Created Mothers

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - August 22, 2024 at 10:03 AM



“ *Sometimes, only one person is missing, and the whole world seems depopulated.*

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - May 06, 2024 at 02:46 PM



“ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3KK6sMo8NBY>

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - December 31, 2023 at 07:14 PM



“ *Every day I wake up and think: How on Earth did I become this much like my mother?*

Who knew...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Frb590XGGJ4>

SKK

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - August 22, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *“Love as powerful as your mother’s for you leaves its own mark. To have been loved so deeply, even though the person who loved us is gone, will give us some protection forever.” —J.K. Rowling*

SK-K

Sherrie Kopka-Kennedy - May 06, 2023 at 09:26 AM



“ *Hey Mom, Just thinkin of you too on this day 2 years ago when the Love of your life (Dad) joined you. Saw a picture of ole Dad when we were at Baskin Robins getting ice cream...Him staring at a cup of Pistachio! I think of you 2 everyday. In some way or fashion something relates back. I miss you and love you, Kenneth*



kenneth kopka - February 12, 2023 at 12:29 AM



“ *A. Jean Kopka*

January 12, 2023 at 12:00 PM



“ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTXGjGdpZTI>

SKK - August 22, 2022 at 09:30 AM



“ *"When your mother asks, 'Do you want a piece of advice?' It is a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to do it anyway." Erma Bombeck*

SKK - May 06, 2022 at 10:27 AM



“ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v2LixP7n_hM

Til you can't....

SKK - April 12, 2022 at 08:47 AM



“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



sherrie - April 02, 2022 at 03:28 PM

KE

“Things we lose have a way of coming back to us in the end, if not always in the way we expect.”

— JK Rowling, *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix*

kennedytarheel5 - August 22, 2021 at 07:09 AM

KK

“Mom, YOUR BEST FRIEND AND SOUL MATE HAS JUST ARRIVED. YOU and DAD are finally back together again, you only had to wait about 5 months. He was well cared for in your absence and now you both can REST IN PEACE. I will take the best of what you both taught me to finish caring for my family and carry on with the last half of my life! Now, GO FIND YOUR HON!

LOVE,
your Son,
Kenneth



ken kopka - February 11, 2021 at 05:21 PM

KK

“First Thanksgiving without Mom. Sure makes you want to tell everyone to love and cherish your MOM while you can. Felt very lonely this year. MISS YOUR CRABCAKES MOMMA! looked back at some old photos..



kenneth kopka - December 06, 2020 at 09:00 PM



“ *Country Basket Blooms was purchased for the family of A. Jean Kopka.*



September 11, 2020 at 12:35 PM



“ *Went fishing on Monday and remembered all those times Mom drove me to the streams and rivers to fish when I was a kid. Probably was a pain and not in her daily plan to do that but she always encouraged me to get outdoors and LIVE! thanks for being there and encouraging me Mom.*

ken kopka - September 09, 2020 at 03:00 PM



Hi Ken. Our condolences from Blacksburg. Your mom had a great life. I hope I can make it that long. Your post brought back memories for me. I was there on many of those fishing trips as a kid and remember them fondly. A great thing to do for our own kids and grandkids. Keep warm memories.

Jon Fritsch - September 10, 2020 at 10:59 AM



So sorry Jean is no longer with us!! She taught me a lot about plants (she was a Master Gardener!), shrubs and gardening in general. Jean and Joe were fountains of excellent info. Hopefully, I can inspire another generation to love gardening. She will be missed and remembered with love!

Kate Godfrey - September 25, 2020 at 08:55 PM

BB

Just learned of Jean's passing. I will remember her ever time I wear one of the beautiful pieces of jewelry I bought from her. I also recall the dinners my husband and I had at her home with Joe. We have missed both Jean and Joe since moving to SC.

Betsy Birch - December 19, 2020 at 09:46 AM

KK

“ 11 files added to the tribute wall



kenneth kopka - September 06, 2020 at 11:01 AM

KK

Mom, every time I "make a deal" I look up and think of you. You taught me well! I LOVE YOU.

kenneth kopka - September 06, 2020 at 12:05 PM

SK

“ 2 files added to the album Memories Album



Sherrie Kennedy - September 06, 2020 at 08:40 AM