



Kathleen Clifton

January 13, 1944 - April 5, 2025

Kathleen R. Clifton, 81, of South Bend, passed away on Saturday, April 5, 2025, at her home following an illness. Born on January 13, 1944, in Milwaukee, WI, she was the daughter of the late Melvin and Helen (Graham) Rouse.

Kathleen was united in marriage to the love of her life, the late James Clifton, on February 20, 1965, in LaPorte. Together, they shared many cherished years, and her family was always her greatest joy. She retired after 28 years of dedicated service at Wells Aluminum in North Liberty.

In her free time, Kathleen enjoyed playing cards, especially euchre, with her family and friends. She found delight in shopping and eagerly looked forward to the weekends, particularly her beloved Free Fry Fridays at McDonald's. Kathleen also treasured her days off from dialysis treatments and looked forward to savoring her cappuccino and bagels.

Above all, Kathleen loved her family deeply. Her heart was full of pride and affection for her two daughters Julie (David) Tessner of Koontz Lake and Shellie Dankert of South Bend; her five grandchildren Casey Dankert, Melissa (Bryce) Bekius, Amanda (Ben) DeVries, Katie Dankert, and Lindsey Dankert. She also adored her eight great-grandchildren: Mason, Mackenzie, Logan, Grant, Clayton, Kinley, Cade, and Charlotte. Kathleen is also survived by her sister Joan Carman.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; one son Kevin J. Clifton; and one grandson Kevin J. Dankert.

A Gathering with the Family will take place from 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM EDT on Friday, April 11, 2025, at Grace Reform Church (700 Van Buriem St., Walkerton, IN 46574), followed by a Memorial Service at 5:00 PM EDT. Kathleen will be fondly remembered for her loving spirit, her warm presence, and the many happy moments she shared with those who knew her. Her legacy of love and devotion to her family will remain in their hearts forever.

Previous Events

Celebration of Life Gathering of family and friends

APR 11. 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM (ET)

Grace Reformed Church
700 Van Buren ST
Walkerton, IN 46574

Memorial Service

APR 11. 5:00 PM (ET)

Grace Reformed Church
700 Van Buren ST
Walkerton, IN 46574

Tribute Wall

SH

“ Praying for you and your families, Julie and Shellie. Your mother had so much love for her family. I know that she will be missed greatly. I remember trying to keep up with her on Words with Friends and then she chided me for having too much time to play. 🥹 I enjoyed playing with her very much.

Stephanie Haywood - April 09, 2025 at 09:07 PM

TF

“ The Carman Family purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kathleen Clifton.



The Carman Family - April 09, 2025 at 05:24 PM

TF

“ The Rich Graham Family! purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Kathleen Clifton.



The Rich Graham Family! - April 09, 2025 at 12:56 AM

FL

“ From George and Terri Lawton planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Clifton.

From George and Terri Lawton - April 08, 2025 at 03:33 PM

FL

“ From George and Terri Lawton purchased the Medium Dish Garden for the family of Kathleen Clifton.



From George and Terri Lawton - April 08, 2025 at 03:33 PM

LS

“ Leonard S. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Clifton.

Leonard S. - April 08, 2025 at 03:06 PM

LS

“ Leonard S. purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Kathleen Clifton.



Leonard S. - April 08, 2025 at 03:06 PM

SD

“ R.I.P Mom. I love you forever & ever! Life will never be the same without you. You will always be remembered and never be forgotten. Rest easy Mom until we meet again.



Shellie Dankert - April 07, 2025 at 06:12 PM

HC

We love you, and miss you, Aunt Kathie! We rest assured, that you are @ peace, in the presence of God, and our loved, ones!

Howard, (Butch), Clifton - April 08, 2025 at 02:52 AM

HC



Howard, (Butch), Clifton - April 08, 2025 at 02:53 AM

KC

Kathie rest in heaven. You have been my friend since I was 18. You stood up for me and took me under your wing. I've always felt cherished by you. I love you so much and appreciate everything you've ever done for me. Tell Jim I said hi. Till we meet again. ❤️🙏🌸🙏❤️🙏

Kathy Keehn Cooper - April 08, 2025 at 03:29 PM

LH

What a sweet lady! Praying for you, Julie, and all the family. ❤️

Linda Hulse - April 08, 2025 at 07:35 PM