



## Kelly Ann deSouza

August 20, 1961 - April 1, 2024

Kelly Ann deSouza, 62, a resident of Bloomington for 30+ years and a lifelong community volunteer, passed away on April 1, 2024. Born in Suffern, NY, she later attended schools in Maryland, Long Island and Upstate and Western NY as her father relocated for work. She graduated from Perry (NY) Central High School in 1979. These frequent re-locations in her formative years allowed Kelly's outgoing personality to flourish -- she made friends easily wherever she went.

After graduating from Olean (NY) Business Institute, she began her professional career in Rochester, NY, at a medical supply firm, and became active in volunteer work at her local Roman Catholic parish, where she met her husband Romualdo deSouza. The couple married April 28, 1990, and, after a brief stay in E. Lansing, Michigan, they settled in Bloomington, Indiana.

Kelly initially worked as a computer consultant for medical software in several local companies and was a Mary Kay consultant. On April 1, 1999, they were blessed with the arrival of their daughter Zarya and Kelly transitioned to a stay-at-home mom and full-time volunteer, two roles she cherished. She loved being a mom! She loved to volunteer taking to heart the saying by Lily Tomlin "I always wondered why somebody doesn't do something about that. Then I realized I was somebody."

Kelly was passionately active in her Catholic faith from a young age. Following her arrival in Bloomington she was a parishioner at St. Paul Catholic Center though she was also involved at St Charles' Borromeo Church and its rosary group. In 2007 Kelly was recognized by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis for her work coordinating the Bloomington tri-parish community's participation in the Walk for Life for several years and fundraising for a Crisis Pregnancy Center ministry.

Her favorite saint was St. Therese of Lisieux. Kelly took to heart St. Therese's admonition "Miss no single opportunity of making some small sacrifice, here by a smiling look, there by a kindly word; always doing the smallest right and doing it all for love." It was a grace that during a sabbatical year spent in Normandy, France, she lived only about 20km from Lisieux and St. Therese's Basilica there.

Kelly's volunteer commitments included time as a youth leader for many years both in the Boys and Girls Club Auxiliary, and as a Girl Scout leader of Troop 60979 for 13 years. She also volunteered at St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School as a lunchroom monitor for the younger children and a teacher's aide in both the science and second grade classrooms. Through the years she and her camera were a fixture at many track meets and cross country races and her photographs and video of these events were much appreciated by the runners and their parents. At the other end of the age spectrum, Kelly volunteered with the elderly, establishing a Catholic prayer group ("Beads with Mary") at Evergreen Village assisted living facility, and serving as a Eucharistic minister to the homebound. She became extremely close with several of the residents.

Kelly enjoyed travelling extensively both across the U.S. and abroad and made many friends wherever she went. The highlight of her travels was a trip to Tasmania where she got to see wallabies, koala, and the famed Tasmanian

devil.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Robert and Gloria Brennan as well as her sister-in-law Roxana Genis whom she loved very much. She is survived by her husband of 34 years, Romualdo, daughter Zarya deSouza of Colorado, sisters Laura (Bill) Pentland of Connecticut and Janel (Craig) Tillmann of Maryland and a brother Patrick (Diane) Brennan of Pennsylvania, sister in-laws Nandita (Stephen) Nelson of the UK, Shana (David) Druffner of Tennessee, and brother-in-law Vincent Genis of Indiana. She is also survived by several nephews: Sean Genis, Jonathan Brennan, Josh and Nate Tillmann; and nieces: Bridget Covucci, Sarah and Emily Pentland, Ava Tillmann, Stephanie Jones, Camilla Nelson Fletcher, Sophie, Katrina, Claire and Natalie Druffner, and their spouses, as well as several great nephews and great nieces. Each of them was precious to her.

A funeral Mass will be celebrated at St. Paul Catholic Center, 1413 E. 17th St., Bloomington, Indiana on Saturday, April 13, 2024 at 10 am. Special prayers will precede the Mass starting at 9:30am. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Hannah House ([hannahcenter.org](http://hannahcenter.org)) or St. Charles School ([school.stcharlesbloomington.org](http://school.stcharlesbloomington.org)).

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at [www.allencares.com](http://www.allencares.com).

# Previous Events

## Special Prayers

APR 13. 9:30 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center  
1413 East 17th Street  
Bloomington, IN 47408

## Mass of Christian Burial

APR 13. 10:00 AM (ET)

St. Paul's Catholic Center  
1413 East 17th Street  
Bloomington, IN 47408

# Tribute Wall

EL

“ Kelly deSouza was the kindest and brightest light. When our family moved to Bloomington so that I could pursue graduate school, Kelly was the first person to welcome us make us feel a part of the St. Charles community. From helping with Girl Scouts to chaperoning middle school dances and chili suppers, I will never forget her warmth and generosity of spirit. Our daughters Angélique and Zarya became fast friends and Kelly welcomed us all to her home. To Romualdo, our prayers go out to you and Zarya, may Kelly's forever memories be a Blessing to you both. What a lovely, special, and fully good woman, friend, mother, and partner. May she rest in eternal Peace. The Lemrow family.

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**Erin Moira Lemrow** - October 06, 2024 at 11:05 AM

MD

“ Dear Laura Beth, Patrick and Janel, I was heartsick when I heard the news of Kelly's passing. It does not seem possible. Our lives were shared during our days on Orchard St., and even when we moved to Castile, I continued to know all about your comings and goings through your Mom during our painting classes. She was so proud of all of you, and rightly so! Kelly's obituary speaks of her strong faith, her many gifts and talents. She was a special person. My condolences go out to all of you and Romualdo and Zarya as well. She is gone too soon! Marie-Elena Deeney

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**Marie-Elena Deeney** - April 17, 2024 at 11:10 AM

MD

“ Dear Romualdo and Zarya, Patrick and all the Brennan family, Cousin Kelly was a special person - warm, loving, very kind and with an infectious optimism - God's love shone through her! When we last met in 2011, I recall discussing with Kelly the challenge of how one puts into practice and truly lives our Christian/Roman Catholic values in the context of a secular world - I was inspired by her, and to this day, still try to follow some of the examples that she shared. Today's Rosary and Mass were a beautiful tribute in prayer to our wonderful cousin. May Kelly Rest in Peace, Amen.



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**Melissa D'Mello** - April 13, 2024 at 03:15 PM

EN

“ Edda Mae Nelson-Sturup purchased the *I Have You In My Heart Plush Blanket* for the family of Kelly Ann deSouza.



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**Edda Mae Nelson-Sturup** - April 13, 2024 at 01:35 PM

EN

“ Edda Mae Nelson-Sturup planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.

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**Edda Mae Nelson-Sturup** - April 13, 2024 at 01:35 PM

AL

“ Amesha Sturup Ligue planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.

Amesha Sturup Ligue - April 13, 2024 at 12:20 PM

AL

“ Amesha Sturup Ligue purchased the Express Sympathy and Condolences "I Have You in My Heart" with Butterfly Wind Chime for the family of Kelly Ann deSouza.



Amesha Sturup Ligue - April 13, 2024 at 12:20 PM

EL

“ Elijah Ligue planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.

Elijah Ligue - April 13, 2024 at 11:40 AM

EL

“ Elijah Ligue purchased the "On Angel's Wings" Sympathy Gift Wind Chime to Send for Funeral Or Memorial for the family of Kelly Ann deSouza.



Elijah Ligue - April 13, 2024 at 11:40 AM



“ Dear de Souza family, Kelly was such a ray of sunshine to all she met. I am grateful for all of her help with the choirs, especially Circle the State with Song and Sate Honors Choir during my time at St. Charles. I send my deepest, caring thoughts of sympathy with love to Zarya and Romualdo, Sincerely Sandra Freund

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**Sandra Freund** - April 13, 2024 at 10:37 AM

SN

“ Kelly was our cousin Romauldo's wife. The things that we remember most about Kelly is her sunny disposition, her kindness and thoughtfulness.  
I admire greatly her positivity throughout her illness and her ability to see only the goodness in life around her.  
I remember fondly the time we spent with her and our American cousins in Indiana in 2018 and the last time we met her here in the Uk last year.  
Her enduring faith was a shining example to us all. It provided peace and acceptance for her and to her nearest and dearest.  
What a beautiful soul she had. RIP Kelly.

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**Shalini Norman** - April 13, 2024 at 09:21 AM

WS

“ W udo S. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.

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**W udo S.** - April 12, 2024 at 12:29 PM

SH

“ Sylvie H. planted a grove of 3 [Memorial Trees](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.

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**Sylvie H.** - April 11, 2024 at 04:36 PM

DC

“ I am so sorry to hear this loss. I still remember those my initial days in bloomington when Kelly and Romualdo helped me and my wife a lot to settle down there. Kelly was a truly gentle and gracious soul. Wishing Romualdo and Zarya peace during this difficult time.

Dr. Dipayan Chattopadhyay - April 11, 2024 at 08:05 AM

MD

“ Our family was sad to learn of Kelly’s passing and our prayers go out to Romualdo and Zarya. We made a connection through our children in the high school track stands a few short years ago. Kelly was a lovely, soulful and welcoming person. We are thankful for the privilege of knowing her. May God hold her in His hands and may His peace rest on your family.

Martha Danielson - April 10, 2024 at 08:08 PM

FJ

“ F ROM cousin James purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Kelly Ann deSouza.



F ROM cousin James - April 09, 2024 at 06:17 PM

CD

“ Kelly was truly a beautiful, gracious and gentle soul who made the world around her a better place. My thoughts and prayers will be with Romualdo and Zarya tomorrow and in the days ahead. With much love Christine D'Mello

Christine D'Mello - April 09, 2024 at 01:21 PM

RO

*Thanks Christine. It was a pity that you only met Kelly face to face a few times. It only took once for a person to realize how special she was. Thanks for the prayers in the difficult days ahead.*

**Romualdo** - April 10, 2024 at 04:05 AM

AD

*“ Zarya,  
Extending sincere sympathy to you and your father. I have good memories from your St. Charles school days, when I'd see your mother and we'd chat. She was always so proud of you, and rightly so. May your many happy memories ease the sorrow you are now feeling. Prayers for all your family.*

*Anne Dilts*

**Anne Dilts** - April 07, 2024 at 01:08 PM

RD

*Thanks Anne!*

**Romualdo Desouza** - April 08, 2024 at 09:46 PM

AC

*“ Abdou C. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.*

**Abdou C.** - April 07, 2024 at 11:30 AM

RK

“ Rana Zouveenoor and Widad Khokhar purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Kelly Ann deSouza.



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**Rana Zouveenoor and Widad Khokhar** - April 04, 2024 at 09:35 PM

RK

“ Rana Zouveenoor and Widad Khokhar planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.

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**Rana Zouveenoor and Widad Khokhar** - April 04, 2024 at 09:35 PM

LK

“ Kelly was a gentle, kind presence in the bleachers when Zarya was running track in high school, often filming on her i-Pad, seated by her sports fan husband, Zarya's proud dad Romualdo. Despite the age difference in our girls, Kelly invited us to Zarya's high school open house, and it was beautifully done, clearly showing organization and high standards for hospitality. I know Kelly was good to many senior citizens, volunteering to brighten days and be useful. She was a lovely woman.

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**Laura Kao** - April 04, 2024 at 03:38 PM

RD

*Thanks Laura, she was a gift to us all*

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**Romualdo Desouza** - April 17, 2024 at 11:33 AM

KS

“ *Kristin and Lee Sobotka planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kelly Ann deSouza.*

Kristin and Lee Sobotka - April 04, 2024 at 03:35 PM



“ *Basket Full of Wishes was purchased for the family of Kelly Ann deSouza.*



April 04, 2024 at 03:35 PM

AL

“ *I'm so sorry to learn about Kelly's passing. I remember what a terrific volunteer she was in Girl Scouts. Her quick wit and enthusiasm always made me smile, and I was glad to have known her. I'm sure she is already making new friends in Heaven. I know she was loved here on earth.*

💕💕 *Alice Oestreich*

Alice - April 04, 2024 at 09:06 AM

TF

“ *Our Deepest Condolences to the Family  
From: Lagrange Ferreira & Family*

Thelma Ferreira - April 04, 2024 at 01:54 AM

TF

“ *Thelma Ferreira lit a candle in memory of Kelly deSouza*



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**Thelma Ferreira** - April 04, 2024 at 01:48 AM