



Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll

May 24, 1927 - December 14, 2024

Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll, 97
May 24, 1927 – December 14, 2024

Kate Kroll of Bloomington, passed away on Saturday, December 14 at Bloomington Regional Rehabilitation Hospital.

Kate was born in Hagerstown, MD to Lawrence and Muriel McClain. She was the youngest of three daughters. After finishing high school, she attended Frostburg State Teacher's College where she met her future husband William "Bill" Kroll. She graduated with a teaching degree and taught grade school for several years in Maryland.

Kate and Bill came to Indiana University after he had started his graduate studies in Audio-Visual Education. Kate worked first at Head Start in Bloomington, and then continued teaching at Hoosier Courts Nursery School at Indiana University. She spent her remaining 25 years in teaching at Children's Corner Cooperative Nursery School.

Kate's life was defined by her dedication to action. She was a woman who refused to stop moving. From delivering meals on wheels, to friends who had stopped driving, to climbing the stairs of IU sports games and theater productions when she could have watched at home, to vacationing with her

family on the South Carolina beaches for over sixty years, Kate never stopped.

Kate enjoyed going to IU football and basketball games with Bill. With her enduring positive spirit, she never felt bad after a loss, saying “we will get them next time”, no matter the outcome the game score. She squeezed every step out of life.

It is hard to imagine a life fuller and more community involved than Kate's. She served as host for hundreds of international students through the Bloomington Worldwide Friendship program for over 50 years. These international friendships lasted her entire life with one student even getting married in her backyard. She was a leading member of University Club always organizing events, with her favorite being the New Year's Eve Party. She was a member of the Garden Club, Hilltop Gardens, Psi Iota Xi Sorority, Meals on Wheels, along with various social groups, and was an ardent bridge player in multiple groups.

Kate was a devout and active member of First Christian Church, Disciples of Christ in Bloomington, where she served in numerous capacities as board member, elder, membership committee and in youth ministries.

Kate is survived by three sons; Craig Kroll of Lafayette, IN, Kim (Lenora) Kroll of Nellysford, VA and Chris (Melissa) Kroll of Montgomery, IN, Daughters in-law Lisa Kroll of Bloomington and Nancy Kroll, of South Bend, six grandchildren; Krista (Rob) Hunt, Brian (Nenya) Kroll, Kandace Smith, Kyle Kroll, Stephen Kroll, Michelle Kroll, and ten great-grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, donations in Kate's memory may be made to the WFIU/WTIU William H. Kroll Endowment Fund. Checks may be mailed to the station at 1229 E 7th St, Bloomington, IN 47405 with “Kroll Fund” in the memo

line, or contributions may be made online at <https://indianapublicmedia.org/support/major-giving/william-h.-kroll-endowment-fund.php>

Funeral services for Kate will be held Saturday December 21, 2024 at 11:00AM at First Christian Church 205 East Kirkwood Avenue. Visitation will be held at Allen Funeral Home and Crematory 4155 South Old Highway 37 on Friday afternoon and evening from 5:00pm to 8:00PM. Friends may call at the church on Saturday an hour before the service at 10:00AM until the time of the service at 11:00AM.

Online condolences, photos and memories may be shared with family and friends at www.allencares.com

Cemetery Details

Valhalla Memory Gardens

310 North Johnson Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47401

Previous Events

Visitation

DEC **20**. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Allen Funeral Home and Crematory
4155 S. Old State Road 37
Bloomington, IN 47401
(812) 824-5905
<http://www.allencares.com>

Funeral Service

DEC **21**. 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM (ET)

First Christian Church
205 East Kirkwood Ave
Bloomington, IN 47408

Tribute Wall

MM

“ We were in University Club together and I also had students thru Bloomington Worldwide Friendship. Recently we took our students to The Elm together. I was surprised that she was not at the UClub Christmas party last Saturday! She was always to full of life! She invited me to her 95th birthday and the invitation read "95 and Still Alive". She has done so much for UClub. We will miss her so much!

Marilyn Minor - December 21, 2024 at 11:28 PM



“ Beautiful in Blue was purchased for the family of Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll.



December 20, 2024 at 02:45 PM



“ A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll.

December 20, 2024 at 02:45 PM

MZ

“ When you first saw Kate, she always smiled. Then she'd share a laugh with you. Kate helped light up the world for 97 years. Aren't we lucky to have known her!

Barrie and Margaret Zimmerman

Margaret Zimmerman - December 19, 2024 at 11:50 AM



“ *Enchanted Cottage was purchased for the family of Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll.*



December 19, 2024 at 09:00 AM



“ *It is Christmas . And,one of our dear angels,Kate, peacefully left us just a week ago to celebrate Christmas in Heaven. Kate was generosity thoroughly in all that she did for anyone. I met her just twenty years ago with Bloomington Worldwide Friendship. She loved each one of her international students and always included them in everything she did from IU events, to home cooking, and driving them to all events. I joined her on many of these events and found it amazing that her life was a steady stream of going places with the students. She was usually the leader, and her attitude was joyful in all the wonderful activities to attend in Bloomington and at IU. May we keep that bright light of Kate glowing as we carry it with us everyday.*



Mary DePew - December 18, 2024 at 09:56 PM



Whoops...Kate was totally generous in all that she that she did for anyone.

Mary DePew - December 19, 2024 at 11:45 AM

AM

“ Once I was no longer teaching at Children's Corner I would only see Kate occasionally, and it was always a pleasure. I felt very lucky to have worked at Children's Corner when Kate was there, she was very encouraging and helpful to me, a new teacher and always fun to be around. Antonia Matthew

Antonia Matthew - December 18, 2024 at 11:18 AM

SS

“ Our sympathy for your loss. Strength to you and all who loved her.

Steve & Linda Scott - December 18, 2024 at 05:49 AM

ED

“ Eric Emma Louise & Leland Daniels-Howell purchased the Days of Sunshine Bouquet for the family of Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll.



Eric Emma Louise & Leland Daniels-Howell - December 17, 2024 at 07:10 PM

BL

“*Kate was one of our favorite and one of the most wonderful people in our Bloomington community that we ever knew. She always helped out, never let you down, was a load of fun and just an all-round amazing person. Inspiring and humble.. what a combination, what a fantastic lady. All who knew her: children (our son), friends, church fellows, unhoused folks, MACUM employees, international students, those great connections at the former IU alumni club, loved her and were amazed by her. She'll live on as an inspiration in our hearts as a model on how to be the finest humans in this world. We will never forget you, Kate. With deep affection, Bess and Joe Lee*



Bess Lee - December 17, 2024 at 03:27 PM



“*Full Of Love Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll.*



December 17, 2024 at 11:13 AM



“*A [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) was planted in honor of Mary Katherine "Kate" Kroll.*

December 17, 2024 at 11:13 AM

CM

“*Kate Kroll was a force of nature. She was positive, energetic and helpful in EVERYTHING. We met Kate when we moved to Bloomington and joined Bloomington Worldwide Friencship. As we read her obituary, we have learned the many many other activities and causes she championed.
..And Kate was a lovely woman with twinkling eyes and a smile. We feel privileged to have known her.*

Cheryl and David Moeller - December 17, 2024 at 08:57 AM