



## Katherine "Kappy" Pattison

February 21, 1949 - November 10, 2023

Katherine "Kappy" Pattison, 74, passed away peacefully in her sleep on November 10, 2023. She was born in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, on February 21, 1949 and was a Cheesehead through and through. The Packers, the Badgers, and the sports teams from Wisconsin were longtime interests of hers. Her father, Thomas Werner, owned a radio station and probably explained Kappy's interest in entertainment and sportscasting. Her father later was a salesman in various locations (Iowa, Arkansas, back to Wisconsin); her mother was a teacher and explains Kappy's choice of profession: teaching early education first in Racine, Wisconsin public schools; then as the religious education coordinator at St. Mary's Visitation in Elm Grove, Wisconsin; and then for 23 years at St. Raphael School as the KinderKlasse teacher in Santa Barbara, California.

She loved her students and enjoyed teaching them the basics of their Catholic faith. The parents noticed how wonderful Kappy was with their children and demonstrated their enthusiasm for her by volunteering and recommending the KinderKlasse program to other parents looking for this educational option. Students who are now young adults still remember her fondly – and especially the classroom festooned with ladybugs and Green Bay paraphernalia. She would share the funny stories about the children with parents, fellow teachers, and at home with Jim, her husband.

Kappy was married in August 1974 to Patrick Martin and they had two boys, Michael (1976) and Andrew (1980). In October 1987, Pat died of colon cancer and Kappy raised the boys as a single parent until December 23, 1994 when she married Jim in Milwaukee. Kappy and Jim were married for nearly 29 years. For many friends and colleagues, the story of how the two boys acted as matchmakers in bringing them together constitutes a true love story of immense bounds.

The family moved to Santa Barbara at the end of 1994 where they have lived since. Kappy retired in 2019 (mercifully before Covid hit the schools); Jim retired from Harvard-Westlake School in Los Angeles after a 26 year career there on June 30, 2023. Jim currently works for RG175, a recruiting firm for independent schools across the country; he specializes in finding advancement professionals to help schools raise money.

Kappy had involved herself with St. Vincent's in Santa Barbara and was one of the initial volunteers at the Father Virgil Cordano Center in Santa Barbara for homeless people. She overcame some initial fears of working with the homeless and discovered the profound honor of serving those who are unhoused. She loved having conversations with the clients who came to the center; and she learned some valuable lessons that she passed along to others. One of those is the importance of greeting people by name. Many homeless never hear their name actually used for long stretches of time ... and few of us think about the dehumanizing aspect of this until we are reminded in a conversation.

Kappy had a wonderful smile, terrific sense of humor, very expressive eyes, and was a person of very definite opinions. She enjoyed being with people and people enjoyed being with her.

Her particular point of pride and joy were her two sons' families (Erin Bonell

Martin, Mike's wife and Liam (17), Rory (14), Tristan (11); Eileen Byrwa Martin, Andy's wife and Dylan (11) and Jake (8). She loved the time together, and had a fabulous time with all of them just last summer in Italy (two weeks) and in London (for the Green Bay Packer game).

Visitation for Kappy will be at the Welch-Ryce-Haider Funeral home on Ward Drive in Goleta on Monday, November 20, 6-9 p.m. with a rosary at 7:00 p.m. A requiem Mass will be said at Old Mission Santa Barbara on Tuesday, November 21, at 11:00 a.m. in the main church. The Mass will be livestreamed and a link will be provided to those who wish to "attend" remotely; and the livestream will be available on YouTube for later viewing if desired. A reception will follow in the Friar's Lounge at 12:30 p.m.

Flowers are appreciated and [GoletaFloral.com](http://GoletaFloral.com) is a local vendor that can handle orders. Donations can be made in Kappy's memory to St. Barbara Parish (be sure to access the "Donate Now" button on the PARISH portion of the website) or by accessing the following: [giving.parishsoft.org](http://giving.parishsoft.org) for St. Barbara Parish in Santa Barbara, California.

# Previous Events

## Viewing

NOV **20**. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Goleta  
450 Ward Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111  
(805) 965-5145  
info@wrhsb.com  
<https://www.wrhsb.com>

## Rosary

NOV **20**. 7:00 PM (PT)

Welch-Ryce-Haider - Goleta  
450 Ward Drive  
Santa Barbara, CA 93111  
(805) 965-5145  
info@wrhsb.com  
<https://www.wrhsb.com>

## Funeral Mass

NOV **21**. 11:00 AM (PT)

Old Mission Santa Barbara  
2201 Laguna St.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105

# Tribute Wall

LC

“ We were so sad to hear about the passing of Mrs. Pattison. My kids were both so incredibly fortunate to have Mrs. Pattison as a teacher in KinderKlasse. She quickly became a friend to our family. When Brady was in her class, he would take a shower and try to brush his buzz cut because he always "wanted to look handsome for Mrs. Pattison".

*I am pretty sure most of the Packers fans in SB county are fans because of Mrs. Pattison. Her love for the Packers is like no other and although she's from WI, she always celebrated my Chicago Cubs successes because she was awesome like that.*

*A funny memory that I will never forget about her. We had just started school at St. Raphael's and I didn't know her that well but we became FB friends.... One morning she said in a VERY stern voice.... MRS. CRAM!!!! I need to talk to you!! I looked over in fear. She continued to say in the most fun loving voice "you are hysterical on fb" sigh of relief and we were friends ever since.*

*Thank you for all of your love and support over the years, Mrs. Pattison. You will be missed. Hugs, love, and prayers to Jim, her children, their families, and all that knew her.*



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**Lisa Cram** - November 20, 2023 at 06:52 PM

CS

“ Please accept my sincere sympathy to the family of Kappy. She was so blessed to have all of you in her life. Many fond memories are had by me, her first cousin. We basically grew up together in Eau Claire and Milwaukee, WI. Much laughter and heartfelt talks between us are remembered as well as wonderful holiday get togethers. Mike and Andy were special and I am so happy to have shared in their early lives. Rest in Peace, Kappy.



*Pinky Scott Schmidt*

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**Carolyn (Pinky) Scott Schmidt** - November 19, 2023 at 07:44 PM