



Patsy P. Ray

September 19, 2025

KINDERHOOK, NY—Patsy passed on September 19 2025 at the age of 94. She was born to Louise and Keith Powers in Savannah, Georgia. Beloved mother, grandmother, sister, sister-in-law, aunt, daughter, friend, nurse, artist, writer and Francophile, she will be tremendously missed by her valued network of family and friends. She handled whatever life dealt her with grace, love and a positive attitude.

She grew up in the Beaufort, SC area. After high school she attended St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing in Savannah which took her to New Orleans for further training and many happy memories. She continued at Cornell Medical School's Nurse Anesthesia program where she met her husband of 15 years, Stewart. She worked at New York Lying-In and other hospitals including Strong Memorial, Fletcher Allen, Child's, Albany Medical Center and St. Peter's.

Ever one for new beginnings, she moved to Paris, France with her children in 1972. There, she met the love of her life and remained for a decade, working at Hôpital Necker-Enfants Malades in electrical anesthesia research and as an interpreter and translator for medical journals. When she returned to the US, she completed her anesthesia career with beloved colleagues at St. Peter's Labor and Delivery. She then worked in home health care in California, Oregon, and Washington and as a hospice nurse in South Carolina

and Columbia County.

Among her varied favorite things: family, friends, and most people she met; childhood on Ladies' Island; the summer spent with friends in Italy as an extra on movie sets; dancing to anything but especially The Twist; ushering at Tanglewood; discussing philosophy and spirituality; and living near the French Pyrenees half of the year in "her little village." Many a drinks party was hosted and boules competition played, and everyone was addressed with the familiar tu, not the formal vous.

She is survived by her daughters Kathy (Dennis) and Rinky/Brenda, son Chef Danyell; granddaughter Sophia; brother Sarge (Janet); cherished family Patrick and Natalie; half-brothers Jimmy, Pat and Don; nieces, nephews, and cousins Roxanne (Gus), Bruce, Sandy, Gordon, Dinksie (Joe), Mark (Joan) and cherished extended family and friends, including Roberta who made life so much better. Our thanks to her medical and hospice teams is profound.

In lieu of flowers, consider a donation in her name to Community Hospice at <https://www.communityhospice.org/donate> or Kinderhook Memorial Library, POB 293, Kinderhook NY 12106.

A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Tribute Wall

LN

“ I am unsure if Patsy was a fairy, a sprite or a pixie, or perhaps an amalgam of all three - she defined breaking the mould after all. I am sure she is still in our orbit, watching us, occasionally admonishing us, but always, always caring for us. How happy I am to have known her.

Lorna Novosel

Lorna Novosel - October 09, 2025 at 07:46 PM

KA

Lorna, She was lucky to have friends who understood that about her. Thanks so much.

Kathy - October 21, 2025 at 10:39 PM

SC

“ Patsy was a friend, neighbor at Warner Lake and in Delmar. She was a sweet lady that was so kind to all. She will be fondly remembered. My condolences to Kathy, Danny and Rinky. May she RIP.

Sue and Mark Crouse - October 05, 2025 at 11:38 AM

KA

Susan, so glad to see your and Mark's names here. She always asked about you, liked and trusted you since way back when.

Kathy - October 08, 2025 at 01:55 PM

DM

“ Patsy was a loving friend for over 60 years starting in Chatham until her passing. Rev. Dale Morgan

Dale Morgan - October 05, 2025 at 10:15 AM

KA

She stayed in touch so long because she loved you Dale.

Kathy - October 08, 2025 at 01:52 PM

RM

“ Thank you Patsy,
Thank you for sharing with us your warmth, your positivity, your curiosity and your unbounded enthusiasm for life.
In my heart, you will always walk into our Saint Nom La Beteche home on the weekends with a sprightly gait, sparking eyes and musical voice chanting: " Hello dears, how are you !?! It's a beautiful day !!!", often leaving with" have a wonderful (or gorgeous) day ! "
You were the blond American we love in France, the one who cares and shares, enjoying people and surroundings like gifts to be treasured. A whirlwind of good vibes.

You invited us over into your house and life, and became a part of our lives - of our extended family, yes - and also introduced us to your three children, who remain our friends half a century later and that, too, is a gift and accomplishment.

I am glad we saw each other last year, like ancient friends, on your deck in the forest. It was natural, it was gentle and caring and true. So if I say farewell today Patsy, know that you remain the ray of light in my heart almost every day when I wake up and hesitate to welcome the day as I should, as we all should, and I hear you sing those beautiful words : Hello dears, how are you!?! It's a beautiful day!!! "

Yes it is. Yes, it IS !!!

Thank you Patsy.

Thank you Sunshine lady ...

Robert Melcher - October 03, 2025 at 03:02 AM

KA

I can hear her! Great story. Thanks Robert. xx

Kathy - October 08, 2025 at 01:53 PM