



Kathryn Ann McCallister

January 10, 1930 - September 4, 2024

Kathryn Ann (Kate) McCallister (nee Schmitt), a long-time Visalia resident passed away Wednesday, September 4th 2024 lovingly surrounded by her family at her bedside. Kathryn was born January 10, 1930 in Moundridge, Kansas to David and Teresa Schmitt. She, her parents and 4 siblings moved to Visalia in 1939. She graduated from Visalia Union High School ("Redwood HS" today) in 1947 and earned her AA degree from College of the Sequoias. Kathryn worked for 17 years at the Visalia DMV while also raising her family. She married her high-school sweetheart Rex McCallister in 1953 and they were together for 56 years until Rex passed in 2009. Together they raised three children, Kimberlee, Timothy and Lynne and she remained loving, involved, and supportive with each throughout her life.

Kathryn was always full of life and loved by so many including long-time friends (even a few from elementary school days!). She and Rex led planning of their high-school reunions for nearly 5 decades. They also traveled extensively together and with friends and family throughout the United States and the world including many cruises, safaris, river boat tours and jazz, hot air balloon, and many other festivals. One of her favorite places was at the beach, particularly Cayucos and Pismo Beach. She also loved to drive, and did so up until a month before her passing, saying that it made her feel free and independent. You just might have seen her zipping around town with her friends as passengers, or taking in the view from her car while enjoying a

Taylor's hotdog or A&W root beer float.

She leaves us with so many beautiful memories... hosting holidays at her home on College Ave. where she entertained and fed all with favorite traditional meals, such as her famous ham loaf; enjoying a competitive table game or puzzle endeavor; her beautiful crystal bell collection; the love and care she bestowed on her rescue kitties; rooting for the Lakers and more.

She is survived by her children Kim Waltner of Folsom, CA, Tim McCallister and his wife Irene of Brea, CA, Lynne Hare of Visalia, CA and fiance John Fagundes of Hanford, CA. Grandchildren: Kara Kelley (nee Waltner) and her husband Matt, Kalli Waltner, Kip Waltner and his fiancée Ashley Petryk, Alicia McCallister, Katelyn McCallister, Cameron Hare and his wife Glenda and Karlee Gomez (nee Hare) and her husband Jason. She is also survived by four great grandchildren, Mason, Karson and Kamden Kelley and Koltin Martin and numerous nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM Friday, September 13th, 2024 at Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel, 127 E. Caldwell Ave., Visalia. Graveside services will be held 9:30 AM Saturday, September 14th, 2024 at Visalia District Cemetery, 1300 W Goshen Ave, Visalia.

Services have been entrusted to Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel. Memorial Tributes and condolences may be offered by logging onto www.salseranddillard.com.

Previous Events

Visitation

SEP **13.** 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (PT)

Salser & Dillard Funeral Chapel
127 E. Caldwell Ave.
Visalia, CA 93277

Graveside

SEP **14.** 9:30 AM (PT)

Visalia District Cemetery
1300 W Goshen Ave
Visalia, CA 93291

Tribute Wall

KC

“*Kate I hope you are having cocktails with Willie and Betty tonight. You will be truly missed. I enjoyed going to dinner with you and sitting at the various restaurants listening to all of yours and Willie’s stories. God Bless Kay Chase*”

Kay Chase - September 14, 2024 at 12:29 AM

MG

“*As one of the Sassy Six, I share so many sweet memories of our years together , dinners at our homes, church and brunch on Sunday, trips to the coast. Kathryn loved to drive and was usually the chauffeur, detouring to find an adventure. There was much laughter and fun, and support for one another. It was a special time!*”



Margie Graves - September 12, 2024 at 08:40 PM

LF

“*Love, Your Ember Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathryn Ann McCallister.*”

Love, Your Ember Family - September 12, 2024 at 01:19 PM



“ *Heavenly Grace Spray was purchased for the family of Kathryn Ann McCallister.*



September 12, 2024 at 01:19 PM



“ *Russ and Jennifer Marlow planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathryn Ann McCallister.*

Russ and Jennifer Marlow - September 12, 2024 at 07:35 AM



“ *Russ and Jennifer Marlow purchased the Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum for the family of Kathryn Ann McCallister.*



Russ and Jennifer Marlow - September 12, 2024 at 07:35 AM



“ *Gracious Lavender Basket was purchased for the family of Kathryn Ann McCallister.*



September 11, 2024 at 10:38 PM

FB

“ From Pat, Bev, the Cokers and Brockhoffs planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathryn Ann McCallister.

From Pat, Bev, the Cokers and Brockhoffs - September 11, 2024 at 10:38 PM



“ Serene Retreat was purchased for the family of Kathryn Ann McCallister.



September 10, 2024 at 08:54 PM

GB

“ Kim, Tim and Lynne...
I was saddened to hear about the passing of your Mom. She was a great woman and always had the brightest smile! I'm sure she will be missed. Please accept my most sincere and deepest sympathy.
Fondly,
Gail Brown Brumley
Escalon, CA

Gail Brown Brumley - September 10, 2024 at 08:33 PM

TB

“ The Bhatia's planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathryn Ann McCallister.

The Bhatia's - September 10, 2024 at 07:57 PM

TB

“ *The Bhatia's purchased the Country Basket Blooms for the family of Kathryn Ann McCallister.*



The Bhatia's - September 10, 2024 at 07:57 PM