



Kathleen Ann Payne

February 27, 1951 - March 25, 2026

Kathleen Ann Payne, 75, of Manteno, Illinois, passed away on March 25, 2026 at Riverside Medical Center in Kankakee.

Kathleen was born on February 27, 1951 in Manteno, Illinois, the daughter of Gerald and Anne LeClaire. She married James Payne on May 5, 1973.

Kathleen spent most of her life in Kankakee, Illinois, where she made her home for over 35 years. In her final months, she resided at Heritage Woods of Manteno, where she made new friends and connections.

Kathleen attended Bishop McNamara Catholic High School and spent many years working as a retail clerk at Carson Pirie Scott. Later in life, she followed her calling to care for others by returning to school to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. She went on to serve patients at Riverside Medical Center with compassion and dedication.

Kathleen found joy in life's simple pleasures. She loved shopping, working on needlepoint projects, and knitting. She also enjoyed starting a coin collection. She had a special place in her heart for her Chocolate Labrador, Shelby Jean, and her beloved cat, Mitzi. She also had a well-known love for pizza and coffee and was affectionately known as "Grandma Coffee" by her grandchildren.

Above all, Kathleen cherished her family. She is survived by her son, Scott (Stephanie) Payne; her grandchildren, Jamie and Jesse Payne; her brother, Jerry (Carol) LeClaire; and extended family and friends who will remember her with love.

Kathleen was preceded in death by her husband, James Payne; her father, Gerald LeClaire; and her mother, Anne J. LeClaire.

She will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by all who knew her.

Cremation rites have been accorded. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

Tribute Wall

BD

“ *Barbara Dams lit a candle in memory of Kathleen Ann Payne*



Barbara Dams - April 09 at 04:19 PM

JK

“ *I am so sorry to learn of Kathy's passing. She was a ray of sunshine and such a pleasure to be around. She made lots of friends during her time at Arc at Kankakee. We are so glad she was able to join us for our Christmas Party. She will be greatly missed.*
Julie Koomar



Julie Koomar - April 06 at 09:57 PM

SP

Julie, she loved the staff and the friends she made at the Arc. I'll never forget the day she left the Arc and she walked out to the song "Pretty Women".

Stephanie Payne - April 08 at 08:17 AM