



Kathleen Ann Santos

January 11, 1940 - August 4, 2024

Kathleen Ann Santos “Miss Santos”
January 11, 1940 – August 4, 2024

In loving memory of Kathy Santos, a beloved aunt, daughter, sister, cousin, godmother, friend and teacher, who passed away Friday, August 4, 2024, at the age of 84.

Kathy was born to Elvin and Katherine Santos on January 11, 1940, in Patterson, California. She attended Mt. View School, Turlock High School, and Stanislaus State and later received her master’s from USCF. Kathy was proud of her Portuguese heritage. She was a festa queen, showed dairy cattle in 4H, and won the coveted Betty Crocker Homemaker of the Year at THS.

Miss Santos started teaching at Yolo Junior High in 1962 and even though it was a hard year, she stuck it out. Kathy retired from the Newman-Crows Landing School District after 39 years. In addition to teaching at many levels, she coached both boys and girls sports, was a counselor, was a continuation and independent studies director, and wrote grants. Kathy served on the Chatom Mt. View School board for several years. She worked with generations of families during her tenure. Her address was Ceres, but her heart was in Newman!

And what a big heart it was! Throughout her life, Kathy was positive and happy, and left a good impression on all who had the pleasure of knowing her. She never backed down from a fight, especially if someone was being treated unfairly. Kathy had a heart for the elderly and drove many to appointments and made sure they were being well cared for. She gave her time and her resources to anyone. If someone needed something, she handled it-many times, anonymously. Kathy took the role of counselor very seriously and long before it was official. Many confided in her for her great advice.

Kathy loved to travel, read and attend plays. She enjoyed sharing these loves with others. As a voracious reader, she always had a book with her. Her travels took her all over the world.

She did not have biological children, but she was a mother figure to many. Her own nieces and nephews benefited from her kindness, she was fun and had a great laugh. Miss Santos had many families in Newman that she adopted and many that adopted her!

Kathy is survived by her nieces and nephews, Debi (Jon) Fletcher, Tami (Mike) Plaa, Jennifer (Scott) Kokochak, Elvin (Amanda) Dick, Jimmy Dick, and sister, Deni Alvernaz, great nieces and nephews, cousins and godchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, Elvin and Katie, sisters and brother in-laws, JoAnn and Manuel Alvernaz, Karen and James Dick, George Alvernaz, and her nephew, Mike Alvernaz.

A visitation will be held on Sunday, August 18, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. with a recitation of the rosary starting at 6:00 p.m. The funeral mass will be Monday, August 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. All services will be at Turlock Funeral Home. Kathy will be laid to rest at Turlock Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, please donate to Modesto Gospel Mission, PO Box 1203,

Modesto, CA 95353, or the charity of your choice.

Cemetery Details

Turlock Memorial Park

575 N. Soderquist Rd.
Turlock, CA 95380
(209) 632-9111
<http://turlockmemorialpark.com>

Previous Events

Visitation

AUG 18. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (PT)

Turlock Funeral Home
425 North Soderquist Road
Turlock, CA 95381
(209) 632-9111
<https://turlockfuneralhome.com>

Recitation of the Rosary

AUG 18. 6:00 PM (PT)

Turlock Funeral Home
425 North Soderquist Road
Turlock, CA 95381
(209) 632-9111
<https://turlockfuneralhome.com>

Funeral Service

AUG 19. 10:00 AM (PT)

Turlock Funeral Home
425 North Soderquist Road
Turlock, CA 95381
(209) 632-9111
<https://turlockfuneralhome.com>

Interment following Funeral Service

AUG 19. 11:00 AM (PT)

Turlock Memorial Park
575 N Soderquist Rd
Turlock, CA 95380-3749
(209) 632-9111

Tribute Wall

SH

“ *The first and best coach I every had. 1966 Yolo Girls' Basketball Team. First uniforms ever. Daily practice. Developing great skills and speed. Doing well against bigger schools. She inspired us. Great memories.*

Suzi Husman Hoge



Suzi Husman Hoge - August 25, 2024 at 09:54 PM

TB

“ *Met Kathy through our mutual friend, Louise Minniear. We had some wonderful trips to Ireland. No matter how lost we got, Kathy always found the humor in our predicament. It was great traveling with Kathy.*

We miss you girl.

Theresa and George Byers

Watsonville, CA

T Byers - August 18, 2024 at 04:37 PM

LD

“ My cousin Kathy was beautiful inside and out. When growing up, I always looked to her as my confidant. She would always bring a smile to my face. Although our times together were short lived due to east coast vs west coast living, she filled my heart. May Kathy rest in peace, and may our family members find solace that she is home and at peace. I will always hold a bright light in my heart, cousin Lynette from New York.



Lynette (Santos) Dow - August 18, 2024 at 02:54 PM



“ Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Kathleen Ann Santos.



August 16, 2024 at 09:55 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathleen Ann Santos.



August 15, 2024 at 03:26 PM

LW

“ Love, The Plaas, Schmidts, and Walkers planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Ann Santos.

Love, The Plaas, Schmidts, and Walkers - August 15, 2024 at 03:26 PM

JS

“ Miss Santos was my home school teacher after I returned from a bad foreign exchange experience and could not get myself to go back to school. She was understanding and non-judgmental. Miss Santos was my 8th grade teacher, but I got to know her kind character more personally when she was my tutor. - Jeanie Rezendes

Jeanie Rezendes Scott - August 14, 2024 at 07:48 PM

SM

“ Kathy was such a wonderful person who was dedicated to the students of the Newman-Crows Landing Unified School District. She wanted to make a difference in their lives and did so thru her kind gestures and her teaching. She was definitely one of those "one of a kind" teachers that truly make a difference and is remembered by so many with many, many kind words. Rest in Peace Kathy and know that your gifts truly made a difference.

SUSAN MATTOS - August 14, 2024 at 12:26 PM

MR

Kathy was a wonderful mentor to me when I first started teaching at NCLUSD. I really appreciated the time she spent coaching me... especially her expert leading of IEP meetings. May you find happiness as you begin your next adventure.

Mary Beth Roe - August 18, 2024 at 06:35 PM

LT

“ I have very fond memories of Kathy. May she rest in peace.

Lynne Taliaferro - August 13, 2024 at 08:14 PM

DM

“ Miss Santos was the best teacher and coach you could ever hope for going to jr high . RIP Miss Santos for all the help you gave me and my family. Dennis Miguel

Dennis Miguel - August 13, 2024 at 07:43 PM

AW

“ I was blessed enough to have Ms. Santos as my 4th Grade Teacher 1989/90 at Von Renner Elementary School. She was such a kind, and loving teacher, but she never took any nonsense from us back then. When I was struggling a bit my senior year, she heard about it, and swooped in to help... She told me she knew she didn't have to help, but that she wanted to, because she said I was worth it. Once she was your teacher, she was always your teacher. I will forever feel blessed and grateful for having her in my life not only as a teacher, but someone I could trust and look up to. May she rest peacefully.

Amanda Woods - August 13, 2024 at 07:17 PM

RC

“ Ms Santos was my 8th grade teacher in the 1963 -64 school year, her second year teaching . A wild class of characters we were, but Ms Santos shaped us up real fast. We will always what a wonderful teacher Ms Santos was. God Bless Ms Santos!

Rennie Campos - August 13, 2024 at 06:47 PM

TL

I had Ms Santos as my 8th grade teacher (63-64 school year). It was the year that we learned about the constitution which set the foundation of what we were to become in our future lives. Ms Santos definitely had a positive impact on our lives and she will be missed. Rest In Peace to one of Yolo's Finest!

Tony Luna - August 13, 2024 at 08:20 PM

MR

“ *Smart, caring and genuine. She was a role model to every student who entered her classroom. She made learning fun and allowed every student to grow especially in that awkward trying moment we enter adolescence. Thank you Miss Santos, may you rest in peace.*

Martha Rodriguez - August 13, 2024 at 02:02 PM



“ *Like so many, I met dear "Miss Santos" at Yolo. She was a young teacher, full of energy and love for every student! I was shy and struggling to "fit in". She noticed and helped me become proud of my own individuality, to nurture my strengths and not worry about my perceived inadequacies. She is the person who suggested I spell Sandi with an "I" rather than the usual "y", as a first step in that journey. She remains my favorite teacher of all time and I'm so very proud that she was also my friend. God blessed each of us who was privileged to meet and know this amazing woman. May she rest in peace knowing she will never be forgotten!*

Sandi Guajardo - August 13, 2024 at 12:56 PM

SW

Sandi, said it for me. We all loved Her. God thank you for giving us this amazing lady. Miss Santos you will live in my heart for ever!!

Susan Madruga Wells - August 13, 2024 at 03:05 PM



“ *We met at Yolo, she was my teacher , coach and friend. Always thinking of others and always there with support and love*

Kelly Selman - August 13, 2024 at 10:01 AM

BA

“ We were students at Yolo Jr. High (1966) and had the honor of "Miss Santos" and her wise, loving words as a teacher. She always cared about the students.

*Thank you, Miss Santos for your dedication- May you rest in peace.
Bernice (Relvas) & Don Arnett*

Bernice Arnett - August 11, 2024 at 07:05 PM

BS

“ I got to know Kathleen from her wonderful sister Joanne Alvarez, she would always have a smile on her face was so kind. Her being a teacher she was so giving to many in need. She was a very kind lady.

Bernice Semore - August 11, 2024 at 12:49 AM

JH

“ Kathy was a wonderful teacher loved by all. Rest in peace.
John/Marlene Hendrickson

John and Marlene Hendrickson - August 10, 2024 at 10:49 AM