



## Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy)

August 13, 1950 - October 5, 2024

It is with profound sadness that we announce the unexpected passing of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy) on October 5th, 2024. Rita was born on August 13th, 1950, in Southampton, England. She was the Queen of Kindness, Seller of Treasures and had the Gift of Gab. Rita loved chatting and laughing with everyone.

She is survived by her husband, Joseph Kanaley; children, Stacy Kanaley, Aaron Kanaley and Sara (Laurence) Kanaley-Carty; special family friend, Justin Pacheck; granddaughters, Isabella Pacheck and Bria Carty; brother, Richard (Sue) Loson; cousin, Sandy (Rich) Withers; special family friends, Kathy Smith and Tom Montesano; family both in England and Ireland; her Country Junktion family; many nieces and nephews; and so many people that she touched. She was preceded in death by her mother, Nora Loson; father, James McCarthy; step-father, Norman Loson; and aunt, Muriel Scott.

Rita was born in Southampton, England and came to America when she was 9 years old. She was a loving wife, mother, sister, aunt, and friend to so many people. Rita loved to give and give; she had a gentle heart. She was a beacon of kindness, a friend to everyone, and an amazing soul who touched the lives of all that she met. Her wonderful spirit and positive outlook on life were contagious, and she had a unique way of bringing joy and comfort to those around her. She had a knack for making people smile and becoming instant friends. Rita had the biggest heart and made it her mission to bring everyone surprise gifts. She loved spending time with her granddaughters, Bria and

Izzy. Her favorite things were primitive antiques, driving her son nuts, and making friends with everyone she met. Rita owned her business Country Junktion, for many years, both in Caledonia and in Churchville. This was her happy place, and she made lifelong friends who would come in just to chat with this amazing woman. Lovingly called "Cheeser or the Big Cheese" by her family and friends, she was like the mayor, and she made sure she knew everyone by name. This is a great loss for the people who knew her and a devastating loss to her family. She was a real-life angel, and all were lucky to have known her.

Family and friends are invited to call on Saturday, October 12th, 2024, at Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home, 2771 Chili Avenue, Rochester, NY 14624 from 10:00am – 1:00pm. Interment will be held at Creekside Cemetery at 1:30pm in Churchville, NY following the calling hours. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the American Heart Association, in honor of Rita Kanaley.

# Cemetery Details

## Creekside Cemetery

Churchville, NY 14428

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

OCT **12**. 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (ET)

Leo M Bean and Sons Funeral Home  
2771 Chili Avenue  
Rochester, NY 14624  
(585) 426-7830  
beanfuneralhome@rochester.rr.com  
<http://www.beanandsonsfuneralhome.com/>

## Graveside Service

OCT **12**. 1:30 PM (ET)

Creekside Cemetery  
Churchville, NY 14428

# Tribute Wall

SK

“ Mom,

*I can't believe it's been a month since you left us. It doesn't seem real. Bria has asked about you and I tell her that you are an "angel in the sky with the clouds" and that you will always watch over her. We will forever miss and love you! We will share the great and "goofy" things that you did for all of us. Until we meet again Mom*

*Xoxo  
Your daughter Sara*

---

**Sara Kanaley-Carty** - November 11, 2024 at 10:59 AM

JD

“ Rita was a very special person. I haven't seen Rita for approximately 50 years but I can still feel the warmth of her beautiful smile and loving personality! I met her under unfortunate circumstances. My first born son was born with a heart problem and we spent the first year of his life at Strong Memorial hospital. During that time a dear friend introduced me to Rita. She became a very comforting and dear friend always helping me get to the hospital and spending time helping through a very rough time in my life! I was very young, 20's and she became my support in dealing with a very sick child. I will never forget what she meant to me then and she will always live in my heart as a pillar of strength and comfort to me. Prayers and much love to Joe and her family. A beautiful Angel inside and out! 🙏🥰 Janet & John DeVito

---

**Janet DeVito** - October 14, 2024 at 08:19 PM

RW

“ Rita was the sweetest lady who loved her family and loved people. She always had a smile and it was always a pleasure talking to her or getting messages from her on my messenger. My husband is Joe's barber and she made his appointments so we always had a nice chat. She sent me the cutest stuff on messenger including proud pictures of her little granddaughter. She was always so thoughtful when we bought the strawberry rhubarb jam from her shop. She was always give me an extra for free or send Joe with a jar for us at Christmas. She will be missed by too many people. Our hearts go out to Joe and her beloved family. Know that she has a special place in heaven because she was an angel on earth 🙏💕  
Sorry we couldn't make the calling hours. Know that you are all in our thoughts and prayers.  
May your treasured memories of Rita bring you comfort, peace and smiles back to your faces as your pain is lessened with the help of God's grace 🙏

---

**Rosanne Worden** - October 13, 2024 at 10:27 AM

DT

“ I was shocked to learn of Rita's passing. How mom and I loved seeing Rita at the house sales and later at Country Junktion. Rita always greeted us with her beautiful smile and always made us feel special and loved. She had such a knack for decorating and taught us to love and appreciate primitives. Know that she will live in the hearts of all of us that she touched. Heaven has gained an Angel.....my condolences to Joe and her beloved children.....

---

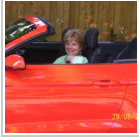
**Diane Trawitz** - October 12, 2024 at 11:47 PM



“ Heaven is a brighter, happier, and busier place now that Rita is there! So sorry for your loss. Our thoughts and prayers are with the whole family. Ed and Linda Corcoran

---

**Linda Corcoran** - October 12, 2024 at 06:20 PM



“ *There will be a special place in heaven for Rita. We visited with Rita just a few weeks ago .Still trying to accept the fact that she has left us.. We went to Country Junktion for years because of Rita. Her sunshine always filled the room. She was so kind. Condolences to Joe and the family. Kathy & Ron Bulman*

---

**Kathy Bulman** - October 12, 2024 at 09:00 AM

GE

“ *Our sincere condolences to Kanaley Family on the unexpected and sad passing of Rita. May she rest in eternal peace. From Gerry and Denise in Ireland.*



---

**gerry\_1967@yahoo.com** - October 12, 2024 at 02:02 AM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).*



---

October 11, 2024 at 01:22 PM

RH

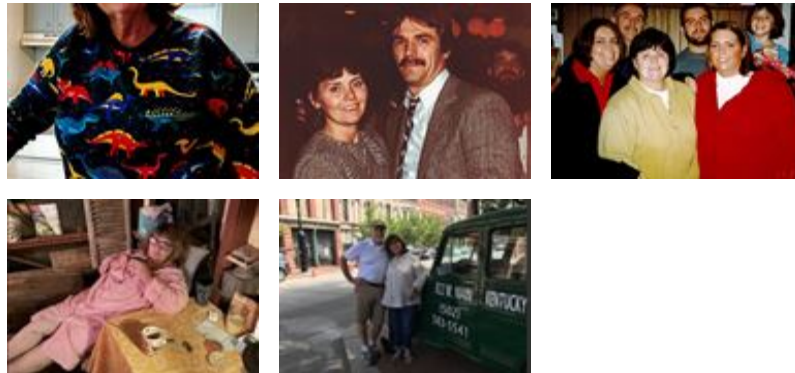
“ How shocked to read of Rita’s passing we were just in to c her 3 weeks ago to pick up our jars of relish we chatted for awhile & hugged & said c u again take care we love you . Our sincere condolences go out to her family whom she loved and talked about with my husband and I every tyme we went to her shops . I’m still in shock that this beautiful loving caring soul has left us ! We got to know her at her first shop and she introduced us to the VI where we ate there several tymes . What a loss for those ppl whom loved & adored her ! So many stories she shared with us . She will be deeply missed our thoughts & prayers to those who loved her and will forever be missed **BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**. Love & prayers Rex & Jo Hults



Rex Hults - October 11, 2024 at 12:02 PM



“ 81 files added to the album LifeTributes



Leo M. Bean and Sons Funeral Home - October 10, 2024 at 12:11 PM



“ *Pretty Please was purchased for the family of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).*



---

October 10, 2024 at 11:14 AM



“ *Kathy, Stacy, Keli, Dennis and Theresa purchased the Pretty Please for the family of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).*



---

**Kathy, Stacy, Keli, Dennis and Theresa** - October 10, 2024 at 10:23 AM



“ *I was Rita's "Buffalo" friend. I remember one Christmas out of the blue I got the most beautiful Christmas card from her. It was a card about special and enduring friendship. I will see you again Rita. RIP Rita. You were an angel on earth and your love will live on in all of the lives you have touched. ❤️❤️*

---

**Mary Schinzel** - October 09, 2024 at 09:17 PM



“ *I always enjoyed talking to her at the shop in Churchville. Our community lost a wonderful person. Deepest sympathy to her family and friends.*

---

**Kim Conley** - October 09, 2024 at 08:53 PM



“ Arrive in Style was purchased for the family of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).



---

October 09, 2024 at 07:17 PM



“ THE ANIMALS planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).

---

**THE ANIMALS** - October 09, 2024 at 07:17 PM



“ My husband Dave worked with Joe at the Xerox toolroom. One of the first times we met Rita was at a company holiday party. Rita asked if we had any children. To our surprise, a few weeks later, each of our young girls received letters from Santa! They were ecstatic! We found out later, Rita sent them! This thoughtful act shows how special Rita has always been. Our deepest condolences to Joe and family. May her memory be a blessing.

Rosele and David Watro 💔

---

**Rosele Watro** - October 09, 2024 at 06:11 PM



“ Samantha L. planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).

---

**Samantha L.** - October 09, 2024 at 03:25 PM

SH

“ Shirley and Jennifer Humphrey planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).

Shirley and Jennifer Humphrey - October 09, 2024 at 12:42 PM



“ Sweet Tenderness was purchased for the family of Rita Sylvia Kanaley (McCarthy).



October 09, 2024 at 12:42 PM

SA

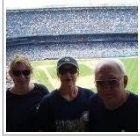
“ Rita was a lovely soul that touched so many lives. I loved chatting with her in the store. She will be missed. Thank you to her family for sharing Rita with us. You were lucky to have this beautiful woman in your family. My deepest condolences. Sandi D

Sandi - October 09, 2024 at 09:40 AM

LJ

“ Having known Rita for so many years, I can wholeheartedly agree with every word of her obituary. Whether a customer, vendor in Country Junktion and/or The Peddlars Market or a friend of a friend, Rita was always smiling!  
I will never forget the first time I was in her store and saw all of her signed photo's from the cast of Little House on the Prairie! It has always been my favorite show and I was green with envy! I hung on every word she shared with me about meeting them!  
I will miss her tremendously and she will always be in my heart...  
Lynn J

Lynn Jensen - October 08, 2024 at 08:50 PM



“ *I'm in such shock my sympathies to Joe and family how I've always enjoyed doing the shows and Caledonia and now in Churchville and our chats setting up and laughing and then going to the Caledonia and afterwards we're such good times. Rita was a wonderful person*

---

**Laura Raforth** - October 08, 2024 at 06:55 PM

BB

“ *This is such a shock and I can only express deepest condolences to her husband and family. She touched me deeply through friendship in the antiques business. Her infectious smile will not be forgotten.*

---

**Barbara Boyce** - October 08, 2024 at 05:47 PM

KH

“ *So sorry to hear of Rita's passing. When we lived in Caledonia my daughter Eva loved going to see Rita at Country Junction and helping her check customers out. We haven't seen her in quite awhile but have fond memories of her warm smile and kind heart. May she rest in peace. Our thoughts and prayers are with all her family.*

---

**Kathy Hall** - October 08, 2024 at 04:47 PM

CD

“ *so sorry to the family i would always see her and wave to her on my walks*

---

**Carmen dalba** - October 08, 2024 at 04:46 PM



“ Thanks big sister for the GI Joe when I was 10. Even though after opening paper, you told me that’s not what was in the box. But it was. Yes I still have that GI Joe. You will always be with me.  
*Rich Loson*

---

October 08, 2024 at 04:15 PM



*I am so sad she was the best loving funny lady have known her for years looked forward to her shows & going to the shop Our sincere sympathies to Joe & her beautiful family hugs & prayers* ❤️❤️🙏🙏

---

**Lynn choate** - October 09, 2024 at 10:10 AM