



Judith Jantzer Koch

September 10, 1942 - March 25, 2016

Hampton Falls – Judith Jantzer Koch, 73, of Hampton Falls passed away suddenly on Friday, March 25, 2016 at Portsmouth Hospital surrounded by her devoted husband, loving son, daughter-in-law and her sister and niece.

She was born in Hartford, CT on September 10, 1942, a daughter of the late Herman E. Jantzer and Gladys (Jacobson) Jantzer.

Judy graduated from Wethersfield High School, Wethersfield, CT, Susquehanna University in Selinsgrove, PA and the University of Massachusetts where she earned her MA in Theatre Arts. An excellent actor, she played in theatres in Fort Bragg, NC, Amherst, MA, and Valley Forge, PA. Under her stage name of Judy Keyes, she toured the south with the innovative theatre company, The Everyman Players, where she played the starring role of Electra in Sophocles' Electra, as well as roles in The Book of Job and The Tortoise and the Hare. She is featured prominently in the book "An Odyssey of Masquers; The Everyman Players," by Orlin Corey. She was made an honorary Kentucky Colonel by the late Kentucky Governor, Louie Nunn.

While in transition after receiving her master's degree (and looking for college level jobs in teaching acting and dramaturgy) she worked as the educational specialist for Dinosaur State Park, Rocky Hill, CT. Because of her work at the

park, she appeared on the TV Quiz Show “What's My Line” where she stumped the panel. While at the park, she reconnected with an old friend from Susquehanna, who would later become her husband, George J. Koch, Jr. they were married in 1974 and had a blissful and loving marriage of 41 + years.

Soon after they got married, George got called to the Seminary and was Ordained in the Lutheran Church in America, one of the predecessor bodies to the current Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. He served parishes in New England, as a college chaplain at Syracuse University and as a Director in the ELCA. Judy taught high school and was a library resource person and assistant librarian wherever they went. In 1986 Judy and George adopted biological siblings from Korea, Suzanne and George III.

Judy leaves behind her beloved husband George J Koch, Jr; her son George III; daughter-in-law PaDeu V. Koch and daughter Suzanne Koch. She also leaves behind her sister Renzie Earle and several nieces and nephews.

Visiting hours will be from 2 – 3 PM on Saturday, April 2, 2016 at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Newington, NH. The Memorial service will follow at 3 PM with a light reception afterwards. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the New Hampshire SPCA, PO Box 196, Stratham, NH 03885 or the National Alliance for Mental Illness, 85 North State Street, Concord, NH 03301.

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 2. 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

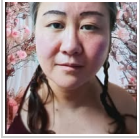
Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
22 Fox Run Road
Newington, NH 03801

Memorial Service

APR 2. 3:00 PM (ET)

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
22 Fox Run Road
Newington, NH 03801

Tribute Wall



“ *My mother Mommy Judy always encouraged me whenever I felt depressed. She could always make me laugh at nothing at all. I will forever miss my mother. Even though I am her adopted daughter doesn't mean she cared less for me. She picked me out and wanted me to be her daughter. And I am honored by that. Good bye Mommy Judy and God bless you on the other side. Sincerely Suzanne A Koch*

Susan Koch - June 27, 2025 at 04:07 PM



“ *Judith Jantzer Koch*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *I will always remember Judy's King's cake that she made for our Mardi Gras festival. She is loving and caring. She made friends easily with her smile and inviting personality. She is by far one of God's special persons who was put on this earth to share her love and compassion with all. Bob Main*

Bob Main - April 01, 2016 at 08:38 AM



“ *George and padeu so sorry to hear about your mom. Wendy Pimentel*

wendy Pimentel - March 31, 2016 at 08:32 PM

RL

“ Judy was one of the easiest persons to get to know. One could see the sparkle in her eye from across a room! We'll never forget her and George as the sheep and donkey in our Christmas pageant. And her portrayal of their resident goat's personalities was hilarious!

Judy was such a comfort and help to Holy Trinity as we began our faith journey with husband George at the helm - participating in all our events and workshops. We were feeling rejected and she helped us feel otherwise.

Rob Leatherbee

Rob Leatherbee - March 31, 2016 at 07:16 AM

MC

“ Thank you Judith for participating and making our services interesting and fun. I loved the children's sermon with the camel that you and pastor Koch did. We had such a short time to get to know you but you leave a lasting memory of joy. You are truly missed!
Margareta Claesson

Margareta Claesson - March 30, 2016 at 08:46 PM

DD

“ I just met Judy for the first time a couple of weeks ago. She spoke to me twice and both times she said the kindest most loving things ever. I will never forget her. I hardly knew her but feel a loss and shock at her passing. What a love!

Debbie DeBeck - March 30, 2016 at 03:55 PM

JS

“ I will remember the fun we had when you came to dinner at our house and we played "Chicken Foot" dominoes. What a wonderful lady. You are in our prayers.



Jill Schock - March 30, 2016 at 02:27 PM

AV

“ Alice Vosburg lit a candle in memory of Judith Jantzer Koch



Alice Vosburg - March 30, 2016 at 01:48 PM

PS

“ Patricia Small lit a candle in memory of Judith Jantzer Koch



Patricia Small - March 30, 2016 at 09:44 AM