



Katherine "Kay" Tinios

March 2, 1920 - April 17, 2014

On Thursday, April 17, 2014, Kay Tinios, founding owner and longtime manager of the Galley Hatch Restaurant in Hampton, died at the age of 94. Kay was born Katherine Harritos in Dover on March 2, 1920 to Steve and Lefkey Harritos; Greek immigrants of modest means who came to the United States roughly a century ago. Both of her parents had to work long hours in the mills in order for the family to get by. Her sister Christine, although a year older than her, struggled with childhood illness and Kay, as a result, assumed the role of leader and caretaker among the family's four children at a young age. She learned to cook, tell time, and act as an interpreter for her parents before she had finished kindergarten. She never resented having had to grow up so fast and credited her drive, independence, work ethic, and sense of familial duty to the experience.

Kay's early life in Dover is where her passion for hospitality began as well. She idolized her mother, Lefkey, whom she always described as a consummate hostess. No matter how little the family may have had, Lefkey was always cooking food for neighbors who had even less. Everyone knew they were welcome in the Harritos household and would come from Rochester and Somersworth to hear Lefkey tell stories and read their fortunes from the grounds left in their coffee cups. Kay often said that there are two kinds of people in the world- hosts and guests- and that she learned from her mother that to be the former was the most rewarding. When she finished high school, Kay took a job waiting tables at Derris Tea Room in downtown Dover where

she first learned the old school tenets of customer service and professionalism.

In 1944, Kay left Derris Tea Room to take a job as a welder at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard because, as she said, “it was the patriotic thing to do.” When World War II ended, she held jobs with Public Service of New Hampshire and Norton Air Force Base and quickly rose to management positions in both places.

In 1953, she moved to California with her fiancée, Mike Tinios, where they married and had their son, John. In 1958, the family moved back to Dover, bought a hot dog truck, and eventually opened a small drive-in restaurant in Portsmouth that they named the Dinnerhorn with Kay’s sister, Christine, and her husband, Chris. Throughout the 1960s, they also owned a sister restaurant in Durham called the Little Horn with Kay’s sister, Helen, and her husband, Jim.

After owning and operating the Dinnerhorn and Little Horn for ten years, Kay and Mike sold the business to Kay’s sisters and their husbands and bought a small takeout restaurant on the corner of Route 1 and Winnacunett Road in Hampton. Savory Square opened for business on July 6, 1970. They changed the name of the place to the Galley Hatch about a year later. When John finished high school in 1973, Kay and Mike moved to Bride Hill and became full-fledged members of the Hampton community, meanwhile expanding the building and menu throughout the next two decades.

Current and former staff members who worked at the Galley Hatch under Kay remember her as a tough but fair boss who took great pride in every aspect of the restaurant. Her expectations were clear, they say, and as long as you followed the rules, you got along just fine. Even though business was business to Kay, she still cared tremendously about her employees. One waitress remembered that “when the going got tough, she was very compassionate.” Kay estimated that over the years she had probably been to more than a hundred weddings, funerals, and baby showers for people who worked at the Galley Hatch.

Customers who frequented the Galley Hatch in the old days invariably describe her as “gracious” and remember her standing at the hostess station to greet everyone who walked through the door. Kay continued to be a significant presence even after she finally retired at age 86. She would frequently make her rounds in the dining rooms and hold court at the end of the bar to catch up with everyone she had gotten to know over the years and to reminisce. To the very end, she loved to entertain and make people laugh. Family was everything to Kay and it was clear that what compelled her in nearly everything she did was her sense of responsibility to care for those she loved. She worked hard to ensure the security and well-being of her relatives in open and subtle ways and never asked for anything in return. She adored her granddaughters, nieces, and nephews and always spoke proudly of her only son, John. Even when John was well into his 50s, Kay would often point to him and remark, “isn’t he adorable?”

Kay will be long remembered throughout the seacoast for her hospitality, her generosity, and her sense of humor.

Kay is survived by her son, John; her granddaughters, Jessica and Elena; her sister, Helen Boyatsis; her nephews, Paul Kamakas, Steve Boyatsis, and Phil Boyatsis; and her niece, Judy Kamakas Pingree. She was predeceased by her husband, Mike; her sister, Christine Kamakas; and her brother, James Harritos.

Visiting hours will be held from 12 Noon -3 P.M. and 5-8 P.M. Sunday, April 27, 2014 at the Remick & Gendron Funeral Home-Crematory, 811 Lafayette Road, Hampton. Services will be held at 11 A.M. Monday, April 28, 2014 at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, 93 Locust Street, Dover. Burial will follow in Annunciation Cemetery, Dover. Relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

The Tinios Family has been a staple in our Hampton community for some forty five years.

Beautification, community growth and future development can only further

enhance our beloved downtown. In a gesture of kind remembrance for Kay, contributions may be directed to: Experience Hampton, the 2020 Capitol Investment Fund, PO Box 1259, Hampton, NH 03843.

Your generosity will help make our special place even more beautiful and, through this expression, our “Kay” mmunity” will truly begin with Kay!

Cemetery Details

Annunciation Cemetery

Old Colony Road
Dover, NH 03820

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 27. 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-6500
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Visitation

APR 27. 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (ET)

Remick & Gendron Funeral Home - Crematory
811 Lafayette Road ·
Hampton, NH 03842
(603) 926-6500
info@remickgendron.com
<https://www.RemickGendron.com/>

Service

APR **28**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church
93 Locust Street
Dover, NH 03820

Tribute Wall



“ *Katherine "Kay" Tinios*

September 18, 2022 at 12:49 AM



“ *Dear John and Family,*

It is with deep regret that we have just learned of Mrs. Tinios passing and we wish to express our love and concern for all of you at this time.

Kindly

Sandy and Bruce Dix

Dix - June 02, 2014 at 07:15 AM



“ *Kay was always a special person. She will always be remembered for her love.*

*Father Kim/Bessie (Perry) Valasiadis
(friend of Helen Boyatsis)*

Fr. Kim and Bessie Valasiadis - April 27, 2014 at 05:04 PM



“ *John & family*

Our thoughts, love & prayers go out to you in memory of your very special Mother. She was a classy lady with a loving heart!

Anita & Bert Metivier

Anita & B.J. Metivier - April 27, 2014 at 10:34 AM

PF

“ Paul Freitas purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.



Paul Freitas - April 27, 2014 at 09:38 AM



“ Love's Journey was purchased for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.



April 27, 2014 at 12:53 AM

CP

“ Chris Phillips purchased the Peaceful White Lilies Basket for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.



Chris Phillips - April 26, 2014 at 12:52 PM

WW

“ William White purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.



William White - April 26, 2014 at 11:05 AM

MC

“ *John & Family,*

Your mother will live on in our memories. Thinking of you during this sad time.

My condolences,

Margaret Chadwick

Margaret Chadwick - April 26, 2014 at 09:12 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.*



April 25, 2014 at 10:51 AM

AB

“ *John & Family, our thoughts and prayers are with you. Kay was a wonderful lady and an inspiration to all. She will trully be missed.*

Alice and Smokey Bowen and the Staff at Fore's Restaturant

Alice Bowen - April 25, 2014 at 08:08 AM



“ *Pink Tribute Spray was purchased for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.*



April 24, 2014 at 09:46 PM

LS

“ *My family has a long history with the Galley Hatch and the Tinios Family dating back many years. I am glad to have known Kay. She was always so kind to my family when we saw her at our Galley Hatch dinners. And my daughter Annie practically grew up there and was very fond of Kay. Her hospitality will long be remembered and her spirit will always be felt when we walk through those doors. Our thoughts are with you all as you begin life without her. She will be missed by many.*

*With sincerest sympathy,
Lee, Annie and Tommy Statham (Lee Kobylarz)*

Lee Statham - April 24, 2014 at 11:57 AM

ET

“ *In 1970 I moved to the New Hampshire seacoast. My airline career took me out of town often and I needed a "kitchen away from home" when I returned. I found it at the Galley Hatch. Kay and Mike Tinios were "The Best of the Best". It remains the same today.*

Kay was a wonderful, gracious, loving lady. Her "award winning smile" would always light up the room, You knew you would have a great dining experience. She truly loved her family, employees and friends. We all loved her so much and we sure will miss her!

*You all are in our thoughts and prayers,
Sincerely,
Evelyn Thornton*

evelyn thornton - April 24, 2014 at 08:51 AM

MS

“ What a wonderful lady, as I got to know her better I surprised her with a memory box one Christmas Eve ,it was full of notes from many of her customers that I had them write down their memory of the galley hatch,the box was overflowing with much love ,it would become a place she would add to never be enough room for all the love??

Our grandchildren would say "we love the galley hatch"

And so as we have a bite to eat,a drink at the great bar,pass through the dinning room,

Start our day with a Kay's coffee ,a friendly smile for the family and great staff ,

"We will never forget" truly a life well lived

Much love and prayers Marsha Skoglund and family

marsha skoglund - April 24, 2014 at 08:27 AM

RM

“ John & Family, We are sorry to have read about your Mom's passing, Kay was a wonderful person, always smiling yet being the professional business person she was, we all will miss her very much. You and your family are in our thoughts & prayers.

Bob & Cathy Mark, Mt. Dora, Florida

Robert Mark - April 23, 2014 at 09:50 PM

JC

“ So sorry to hear about your mother. I have wonderful memories of working with you all. And, long after we worked together, every time I dined at Galley Hatch, Kay would come speak to me. What a fine woman. We will all miss her. Julianne Cooper

Julianne Cooper - April 23, 2014 at 02:21 PM

KC

“ *John, Thinking of you and your family during this difficult time.
Karen Chouinard, PFG Northcenter*

Karen Chouinard - April 23, 2014 at 01:12 PM

BC

“ *4 files added to the album New Album Name*



Bobbi Slavin Cimini - April 23, 2014 at 10:27 AM

DS

Thank you so much for posting these pictures..I just love the one where Kay is laughing...I so glad I made her smile!!!

Denyce Collins Stellmach - April 28, 2014 at 09:56 PM

BC

“ *John*

Your mom was an inspiration to all who met her and worked for her. She certainly was an unforgettable personality. In a day and age when people have their hands out looking for entitlements, your mom modeled the work ethic that all people should take to heart. And those of us who got to know her over the years saw the compassion that lay beneath the surface. She was someone I 'feared' at times but also respected and wanted to please with all my heart. I am sure she is with the angels in heaven right now.

Attached photos were taken when she was 90 - at Hachette gathering. She has fewer wrinkles than those of us much younger!



Bobbi Slavin Cimini - April 23, 2014 at 10:26 AM

PD

“ *John:*

Heartfelt condolences on the loss of your Mother. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Pam DeNobile



Pam Denobile - April 22, 2014 at 09:46 AM

JB

“ John, Jessica & Elena: Your mother and grandmother was a wonderful lady....friend to many and gracious to all. She'll be greatly missed, but we know your fond memories will help you through your loss. Our sincere sympathies to you.

John, Nina, Lisa and Tim/Lauren Bottomley

John Bottomley - April 22, 2014 at 09:20 AM

MC

“ Dear John and family, please accept our deepest condolences.
Mary Mynott Casey

Mary M. Casey - April 22, 2014 at 07:38 AM

BB

“ My beloved Godmother..you were always so good to me! Every trip home from Arizona I could always count on a good meal and conversation with you! You were a rock for so many! You will be missed! *Brandy Bobolas*

Brandy Bobolas - April 21, 2014 at 09:05 AM



“ Sweet Solace Spray was purchased for the family of Katherine "Kay" Tinios.



April 21, 2014 at 08:47 AM

MG

“ Dear John and family, How well I remember Kay as a friend and neighbor. I have fond memories of our recoveries from surgery together and you, John, brining us dinner from the Hatch. Kay was a kind and generous person and told it like it was! She was a beautiful gem. Fondly, Melody Dahl Gabriel

Melody Gabriel - April 20, 2014 at 03:55 PM

PB

“ My sympathy to John and Family. We have lost a beautiful lady.

Patricia Bancewicz - April 19, 2014 at 08:22 PM

SW

“ I was pleased to meet your Mom and so enjoyed our visits while across the hall from her in the apts at Ross Colony. She was a lovely lady! Sincerely, Sandy Weeks

Sandy Weeks - April 19, 2014 at 01:32 PM

LE

“ Keeping you all in our thoughts and prayers. Kay was a wonderful woman who was generous, kind and loving to all she knew.....

The Lafonds

Leslie - April 17, 2014 at 06:54 PM

MH

*God bless Kay and her family.
The Hurley and Carter families*

Mary Hurley - April 19, 2014 at 11:34 AM

PH

God Bless you John, Jess and Elena. Kay was a superb Woman. She was one elegant Lady. I am so glad I knew her.

Phyllis Hahn - April 20, 2014 at 02:12 AM

CB

John.....we were saddened to learn of your Mum's passing. I have so many wonderful memories of both her and your Dad. She was a lovely woman with a huge and generous spirit. She will be missed. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family. Love, Cindy and Everett Barnes

Cindy Barnes - April 21, 2014 at 11:06 AM

JT

Thank you for the out pouring of love for Mom, she truly loved people.

John Tinios - April 22, 2014 at 08:22 PM

DM

John, Alice and I are down in Florida but we want to share our thoughts with you at this time of your mothers passing. She was always a friend of the Maloney family and had anecdotes of humor to share with us on many occasions. She will be missed by many in the Hampton community.

Dan & Alice Maloney

Dan Maloney - April 24, 2014 at 05:17 PM