



Kathleen Blankley Roman

April 18, 1945 - May 16, 2024

Kathleen Elizabeth Blankley Roman, 79, visual artist, of Chicago's Avondale neighborhood, passed away, after a brief battle with cancer, May 16, 2024.

Born in Chicago, Kathy graduated from Sullivan High School, and earned her Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, before attending art school.

She worked in the magazine world, freelance art, children's book illustration, psychology, nursing, and floral arranging, and contributed to Cricket Magazine. After retirement, she embraced her life's passion as a visual artist. Her prime medium was encaustics (bees wax) and Sumi-e (Japanese ink wash painting). Most of her works were created in the last 12 years of her life.

Kathy was immeasurably supportive of other artists. She was loved and respected in Chicago's art community, and her creativity, talent, and vivacious personality will be greatly missed. She was as fiery as her naturally red hair.

Kathy also adored theatre and attended many theatrical productions. She loved to recount her own community theater exploits in the limelight.

Beloved wife of the late Gene "Skip" Roman, loving stepmother of Jules Roman of Sarasota, Florida.

Adoring grandmother of Alexander David Roman, Andrew William Roman, and Jacob Michael Roman.

Sister of C. John (Maureen Foley) Blankley.

Preceded in death by parents William Houlton Blankley and Margaret Gilman Flannigan Blankley.

Friends and family are gathering to celebrate Kathy's life and work on Saturday June 8, 3-6pm, at Alma Art and Interiors, 3636 S Iron St, Chicago, IL 60609.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her name to the American Cancer Society: <https://www.cancer.org/>.

Arrangements by Inclusive Funeral Care, 773-370-2959 or www.InclusiveFuneralCare.com.

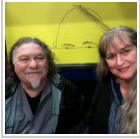
Previous Events

Celebration of Life

JUN 8. 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (CT)

Alma Art and Interiors
3636 S Iron St
Chicago, IL 60609

Tribute Wall



“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



Bonnie Kenaz-Mara - June 08, 2024 at 12:14 PM



“ Still one of my favorite shots of us. Kathleen Roman was our friend and neighbor for 22 years & my +1 for thousands of plays over the past 14. We had some fun! You are missed, my friend.



Bonnie Kenaz-Mara - June 08, 2024 at 12:12 PM



“ Love, Tracey & Charlie planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Blankley Roman.

Love, Tracey & Charlie - June 05, 2024 at 01:05 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Kathleen Blankley Roman.



June 05, 2024 at 01:05 PM



“ John Blankley and Maureen Foley planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Kathleen Blankley Roman.

John Blankley and Maureen Foley - June 04, 2024 at 09:11 PM



“ Sweet Tranquility Basket was purchased for the family of Kathleen Blankley Roman.



June 04, 2024 at 09:11 PM



“ Yolanda Fernandez & Val Shebeko purchased the Enchanted Cottage for the family of Kathleen Blankley Roman.



Yolanda Fernandez & Val Shebeko - May 21, 2024 at 03:14 PM

LB

“ In the short time I knew Kathleen, she inspired my Sumi-e with her incredible rendering of trees and lotus flowers, and her practice : always a student of nature and her surroundings. She supported me in my journey into various art forms, and introduced me to her community of artists at Alma Art & Interiors. She will walk with me in my travels as I experience more of the beauty that is all around. Adieu, my dear friend. Your art lives on with us, as does your heart.
Linda Boyle

Linda Boyle - May 19, 2024 at 12:53 PM

HD

Kathy was such an optimist who savored life. She loved being a part of the creative community and attended all the openings. She spent several holidays with me at my home. It's been a pleasure to display an exhibit of paintings from her studio at the Chicago Temple Gallery. The work looks so strong. Reading her bio and artist statement on her website, I've learned even more about her life and creative motivation. I was most impressed with the peace she had as she faced death. She accepted it as a natural next step, something I think we all could learn from. Her presence in the Chicago art scene was ubiquitous and her absence will be keenly noticeable. My deepest sympathy to Jules and the boys. She loved you all deeply.

Helen Dannelly - June 03, 2024 at 09:42 AM

TA

I will miss her kind and sweet friendship . She helped me several times bring my art work to show far from me and I treated her to a special lunch at the Cheese Cake Factory. I WILL MISS HER FRIENDSHIP ,KINDNESS AND BEAUTIFUL ART !TOBI STAR ABRAMS

TOBI STAR ABRAMS - June 06, 2024 at 11:56 PM