



Patricia Lynn Kerr

January 29, 1949 - April 22, 2026

Patricia L. Kerr January 29, 1949 – April 22, 2026

Patricia L. Kerr, known to most as Patti, passed away on April 22, 2026, at the age of 77, in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, a place she called home for more than 50 years. Patti lived a life full of learning, service, devotion, and creativity, deeply centered on her family, especially her grandchildren.

Patti was born on January 29, 1949, in Holdenville, Oklahoma, to Harmon Creed “Mike” Carmichael and Kathryn Forbes Carmichael. She grew up in Bristow, Oklahoma, before moving to Tulsa for her senior year where she graduated from East Central High School. These early years shaped her strong sense of curiosity, fairness, and compassion, qualities that guided her throughout her life.

She earned a Bachelor’s degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Art from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Patti spent her professional career teaching in the Dewey School System from 1987 to 2012. She especially enjoyed teaching science, language arts, and social studies and believed education should spark curiosity, confidence, and a lifelong love of learning. Her students knew they were expected to think.

On December 7, 1985, Patti married David H. Kerr. Together they shared

more than 40 years of marriage marked by companionship, shared interests, and genuine enjoyment. They loved traveling, sporting events, eating out, spending time with grandchildren and family, and being members of Bartlesville First United Methodist Church. They treasured their close circle of friends and the life they built together.

Patti believed strongly in staying involved and giving back. She served as a board member of the Bartlesville Art Association and volunteered generously with the League of Women Voters, Washington County Retired Educators Association, the Salvation Army, Green Thumb Garden Club, and the Church Library. Patti valued civic responsibility, creativity, and community and she lived those values every day.

Creativity played a central role in Patti's life. She loved drawing and was deeply passionate about the arts. She was an avid reader of murder mysteries, and spent time working on a book of her own, with dreams of becoming a romance novelist. In recent years, she also developed a true passion for watching K dramas. Patti adored musical theater, especially *Cats* the musical which she loved unapologetically. She was firmly Team Edward and proudly House Gryffindor.

Above all else, Patti treasured being a grandmother. She took immense joy in planning time with her grandchildren, filling days and her heart with swimming, trips to Kiddie Park, summer art classes, tennis, visits to Woolaroc, and countless small adventures she delighted in creating for them. She followed their lives closely, celebrated every milestone, and loved them with unmistakable pride and enthusiasm.

Patti is survived by her husband, David H. Kerr; her children Stephanie Brace (Ray) of Stillwater, Oklahoma; Michelle Eaton (Trenton) of Edmond, Oklahoma; Debra Kerr (Steve Thompson) of Chicago, Illinois; and Dean Kerr (Roberta) of Mobile, Alabama. She is also survived by her grandchildren Riley

and Elias Stackenwalt, Brodey Ward, Leo Eaton, Anne Claire Fassnacht (Alex Yoffe), Lucas LaCosse, Trevor, Braden, and Aurora Kerr; along with extended family including her brother John Carmichael (Jan), brother-in-law Kenneth Crossland, nieces Katie Carmichael and Sara Crossland, and nephew Creed Crossland.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Harmon Creed "Mike" and Kathryn Carmichael, and her sister, Karen Crossland.

Patti will be remembered as an educator, volunteer, artist, reader, meticulous list maker, and a grandmother who loved her grandchildren deeply. She believed learning never stopped, community mattered deeply, and life was always better with curiosity, creativity, and a really good musical.

A Celebration of Life will be held on May 30 at 2:00 p.m. at Bartlesville First United Methodist Church. A reception will follow, during which Patti's artwork will be displayed. Guests are invited to select a piece that speaks to them and take it home in her memory. Family and close friends will later gather at the columbarium to share stories and memories while visiting Patti's plaque and resting place.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages acts of volunteerism, support for education or the arts, or simply spending extra time with the people you love, just the way Patti would have done it.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

MAY 30. 2:00 PM (CT)

First United Methodist Church
4715 Price Road
Bartlesville, OK 74006

Tribute Wall

KC

“ Ken and Janet Crossland, Sara & Creed purchased the *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum* for the family of Patricia Lynn Kerr.



Ken and Janet Crossland, Sara & Creed - May 28 at 02:09 PM

KC

“ Ken and Janet Crossland, Sara & Creed planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Patricia Lynn Kerr.

Ken and Janet Crossland, Sara & Creed - May 28 at 02:09 PM

EN

“ At an Art Association reception about three years ago, Patti said to me, "Hey - I want you to help me write a book." She had an intriguing idea, based upon a dream she'd had. Blithely, I said, "Sure - we'll do that "Write a Novel in November" thing." Well, we didn't write it in November. It's not even finished now, but we embarked on a journey of creative discovery and growing friendship. The first year we entered it in the Oklahoma Writer's Federation Inc. (OWFI) contest, the judge hated it - mainly because (as she said), "It's NOT a Romance!" At the end of the critique, the judge added, "What you have here is the beginning of a good suspense novel." But Patti and I decided we were going to master the Romance genre, darn it. And we did. Two weeks after Patti passed, I learned that we - "The Pecan Place Writers" (our team-writing name) - won Third Prize in that hotly-contested and prestigious contest! So, Patti, in addition to your many other wonderful achievements, you did realize one of your newer dreams; you became a Romance Novelist. Thank you. I miss you. Sincerely, Eloise

Eloise Needleman - May 27 at 03:17 PM

JC

Oh, wow! I'm so sorry she didn't get to know that you two had won that honor! She was very talented!

Janet Crossland - May 28 at 02:13 PM

KR

“ Kelloniemi's, Strom's & Rian's purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Patricia Lynn Kerr.



Kelloniemi's, Strom's & Rian's - May 27 at 09:30 AM

CP

“ I was a class member with Patti and a band member with Patti at Bristow. I am deeply sorry to read of Patti's passing. Patti was smart, compassionate and a great friend. I will miss reading about her wonderful talents. Karen , her sister in knew also, Mrs Carmichael was my Girl Scouts leader with Mrs Maroon. Patti and her whole family were a family to look up to and admire. In Heaven Patti will performing with her flute and giving art classes with the Masters. Deepest sympathy. and respect
Christie Fousel Pitts

Christy Pitts - April 27 at 12:30 AM

DP

“ So sorry to hear of Patti's passing. Her sister, Karen, was in my class of 1965 at Bristow, and I remember her being so proud of her little sister. We hated losing Karen so early in life. God bless the Carmichael sisters we all loved.

Dr. Billye Newton Putnam - April 26 at 11:59 PM

GH

“ Patti and I got to know each other in 3 classes at East Central. She was quiet but had a very sweet personality.

Gloria Hendricks - April 25 at 05:55 PM

MA

“ I met Patti through the Bartlesville Art Association. I enjoyed talking with her. She was kind, and sweet and was a talented artist.

Marta - April 25 at 01:59 PM

DH

Patti was the dearest friend since our daughters were in elementary school together and she lived around the corner. We went to church together at First Baptist and First Methodist. Many, many years of memories- walks on Pathfinder, pool parties, gardening. Most recently she attended ballet to watch my grandchildren. Since I moved away, I did not see her as much. As I sit in the botanical garden in Spokane, I'm reminded of her beautiful flower garden and her love of nature. Rest in peace, dear friend.

Diana Hiatt - April 25 at 05:17 PM

EC

My print of Patti's prize-winning Pilgrim Woman is a work of art that I loved the moment I saw it in the art show. Patti was such a sweet woman--she often gave me a ride home from WordWeavers meetings, where she always took careful notes. We are all going to miss her--especially for her kindness and creativity.

Elizabeth Ann Cleary - May 29 at 01:42 PM