



## Dawn Fern Kettering

March 10, 2022

Dawn Fern Kettering, 89, passed away peacefully at home on Thursday, March 10, 2022. She is now with her heavenly family. Born in Rheems, Pa, she was the daughter of the late Ruth and Ray Strickler and the loving wife of W. Richard Kettering until his passing in 2018. They had been married for 65 years.

She is survived by her three children: Richard Kettering (Barbara Terrill Kettering), Kimberly Kegel, and Kam Kettering (Patty Kettering). She had eight grandchildren: Andrew, Vanessa, Alexis, Kristin, Laurel, Ariel, Jonathan, and Ben, and seven great grandchildren.

Dawn came from a large family of ten siblings. She had 40 nephews and nieces. Family was very important to her, and she routinely organized large reunions, and gatherings to keep her caring family close to her heart.

Dawn was very devoted to her lord and savior. She described herself as a human being making effort, bringing as much joy to all humanity as was possible. She was a positive force in the lives of so many.

Dawn earned her bachelor, and master's degree at Millersville University. She was a kindergarten teacher for the Lancaster School District and was a developmental counselor for Penn Manor School District for 16 years. Dawn

also did private counseling, with her husband, for many years.

Dawn had a green thumb and a love of gardening. She was a member of The Town and Country Garden Club.

“Dawn as the day; fern as the bloom - in sunlight, in seasons, under the moon.”

Friends and family are invited to view a Livestream of Dawn’s Celebration of Life on Thursday March 31. 2022 at 11am at <https://client.tribucast.com/tcid/3817622135>.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Hospice & Community Care, 685 Good Drive, P.O. Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Dawn Fern Kettering*

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October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM

KS

“ I originally sent this to Dawn on her birthday, but it seems fitting to share this Haiku in memory of her.

*Relentlessly Curious*

*For Dawn Kettering*

*Just like Einstein said*

*never to lose a holy*

*curiosity*

*Being curious*

*is a definitive sign*

*of intelligence*

*Curiosity*

*brings excitement to a life*

*of activity*

*It provides you with*

*positive expressiveness*

*playfulness and joy*

*Unconventional*

*thinking is a part of it*

*as is more knowledge*

*Inquisitiveness*

*brings new possibilities*

*and opens new ideas*

*It adds the bright eyes*

*and the bushy tail to the*

*equation of life*

*You are fortunate*

*to be filled with relentless*

*curiosity*

*With Love, from Karyn Strickler*

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**K Strickler** - March 31, 2022 at 05:06 PM

BC

*Loved my cuz, Dawn. BEC*

**Bonnie Strickler Cain** - July 05, 2024 at 05:03 PM

BC

*Jesus IS returning for His bride in 2024, say, the "prophecy experts".  
NEC*

**Bonnie Strickler Cain** - July 05, 2024 at 05:04 PM

PA

“ *Patty lit a candle in memory of Dawn Fern  
Kettering*



**Patty** - March 31, 2022 at 04:39 PM

“ Dawn

*Aunt Dawn was born in 1933, think FDR and Great Depression,  
Born in Rheems Lancaster County, honest little-town perfection,  
She married Uncle Dick, and together they were since Eisenhower,  
He a Millersville professor, teaching with his big brainy power, They  
would have three great children, to carry on worthy tradition, All  
natural health chiropractors, for each wellness their mission.  
In the seventies, they had a Winnebago for camping as a family,  
Remembering back, it was kind of impressively Mack Truck manly,  
They lived in a large 1800s mansion, one they restored to fashion,  
With surrounding trees and gardens, hard work but Dawn's passion,  
But thirty years ago they moved to a three-level condo beauty,  
Full of welcoming light and comfort, after your shoe-removal duty.  
Chief uniter, video in hand, she preserved the Strickler tradition,  
One of rising with inner strength, intellect, love and nutrition,  
She understood that while we grow old and times indeed change,  
There are universal life truths we must never confuse or rearrange,  
To seek wisdom, listen well, think freely but disagree with grace,  
Never losing sight of what matters in this life and the Beyond place.  
Aunt Dawn enjoyed the finer things, but never for a second too  
much, Always just things on-lease in this life, knowing people are  
the real touch, Truly listening and remembering and caring, always  
the patient presence, Never judging or pushing or giving into hate,  
just the calming essence, Yes, the visit might involve a green shake  
or some form of bark-like treat, But always with an eye on the health  
of body, mind, spirit complete.*

*Aunt Dawn was truly an exceptional example, of how to be a good  
person, Of healthy exercise too, all the nifty equipment in her loft for  
exertion, Whatever the circumstance, always she aimed to reflect  
the Infinite Light, Never forcing her view, only motive was serving  
others and doing right, Most of all a confidence that the Universe is  
working, all just as it should, Faithful peace that the Journey  
extends beyond this life, and it is truly good.*

*Tim Strickler 3/31/2022*

TS

“ 1 file added to the album



Tim Strickler - March 31, 2022 at 04:19 PM

RR

“ Rosalie Rice lit a candle in memory of Dawn  
Fern Kettering



Rosalie Rice - March 29, 2022 at 08:14 PM

RR

RIP Dawn.

Rosalie Rice - March 29, 2022 at 08:16 PM

JW

“ Dawn was such a sweet person. I met her when I was a lifeguard at the Rec. She and I had many conversations and shared so many laughs. I looked forward to seeing her come in to swim. Her smile would light up any room. Rest In Peace sweet Dawn. You will be missed!!  
Julie Wareham

julie wareham - March 14, 2022 at 07:49 PM



CB

“ Dawn was a warm, welcoming and fun-loving person who shared her generous hospitality with us particularly at the holidays. Peace to her children and grandchildren as they learn new ways to be a family without her physical presence. Love Charmayne and Omer Brubaker

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**Charmayne Brubaker** - March 14, 2022 at 04:46 PM

CB

“ Charmayne Brubaker lit a candle in memory of Dawn Fern Kettering



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**Charmayne Brubaker** - March 14, 2022 at 04:42 PM

SK

“ I knew Dawn as a fellow member of the Town and Country Garden Club of Lancaster. She chaired our Sunshine Committee for many years. I was the recipient of her kindness at a luncheon in 2010 that she held each year for club members who had experienced a loss, illness or surgery, or other hardships. My daughter had passed away from cancer at the age of 31 that spring. The luncheon was one of the first outings with friends other than family that I attended. She was so welcoming as were the others at the luncheon. She had prepared a delicious meal and then gave a tour of her garden. It was a delightful afternoon and was just what I needed to lift my spirits. She was always so inclusive and thought of others first. She will be missed.

*Susan Ketterman*

*Town and Country Garden Club of Lancaster*

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**Susan Ketterman** - March 14, 2022 at 09:27 AM

LT

“ Dawn was an amazing lady in so many ways. I was privileged to be her niece. I am so thankful for how she drew the family together. She hosted so many large gatherings and was always interested in everyone's life. She was positive, accepting and joyful. She was so good at keeping in touch and could connect with people of all ages. She will be missed greatly by many people. I am thankful for her example of living well. sending love, Lauren

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**Lauren Tsai** - March 13, 2022 at 05:23 PM

CB

“ I will miss seeing Dawn walking the neighborhood usually with her walking sticks. She always took the time to connect with me and with my dogs Beamer and Sandy. We talked about gardening, family, volunteer work that Beamer and I did as a result of Dick's connections and whatever was happening in the neighborhood. She was amazing in yoga for a long time before the pandemic hit as well! She had a sincere interest in connecting with people and appreciating their lives. I really enjoyed the tea parties she gave for the neighborhood ladies to get to know each other. I will miss her positivity and joy in life. My sincere condolences to all of her family. Christine Bunce

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**Christine Buce** - March 13, 2022 at 12:45 PM