tête à tête

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Yorktwinning.com Doug & Betty Stein j1j2j31@comcast.net

A Message from your Co-Presidents

Bonjour! Guten Tag!
From Co-Presidents Doug & Betty Stein

The York Twinning Association had a busy summer! June 11th through June 25th fourteen YTA students traveled to Germany for a student exchange accompanied by chaperone and German teacher Lynn Leonard. Their German student hosts will come to York for an exchange visit in October. From July 13th through July 27th Audrianna Dusseau, along with French teacher and YTA chaperone Kristi Spies, represented YTA during an exchange to Arles, France. On July 27th, Audrianna and Kristi returned to York bringing with them French student Gabrielle Peiffer, York-Arles Club President Marie-France Espinat, husband Alex and their son Thomas. Gabrielle was hosted by the Dusseau family. Marie-France, Alex and Thomas were hosted by Kristi Spies from July 27th through August 3rd then switched host homes on August 3rd—Thomas stayed with Kyle and Launa Groft before returning to France on August 7th. Marie-France and Alex stayed with Betty and Doug Stein until departing, along with Gabrielle, for France on August 10th.

YTA's next in-person and zoom meeting will be held October 15th, starting at 6:30 PM, in the Loucks Room at the York YMCA. After a brief business meeting members will get to share their experiences and hear memories and view photos from our student and adult exchange trips. Hope to see you there!

SAVE THE DATE - SEPTEMBER 20, 2026!

WHAT: Oktoberfest Celebration
WHERE: Lancaster Liederkrantz
722 S. Chiques Road
Manheim, PA 17545
WHEN: Sunday, September 20, 2026
12 to 6 PM
ADMISSION: CASH ONLY—$10 at gate

A table will be reserved for YTA members by a friend of Hank and Michele Groat. Hank and Michele will not be in attendance this year because they will be celebrating Oktoberfest in Germany! Throughout the day there will be authentic German dancing, live music, singing, food, beer, and activities for kids.

Free parking is available across the street from the venue or you can pay to park in the venue parking lot. There is a handicap accessible ramp and golf cart to help transport those in need of assistance from the parking lot to the event tent.

No food or drink may be brought into the event!

Invite your family and friends—the more the merrier! Hope you come and join in the fun!

Questions? Contact Betty Stein at 717-880-1404

Twinned with:
Arles, France
(Since 1954)

OUR MISSION:
To create opportunities for personal contacts while gaining mutual respect and international friendship through organized exchange programs with our twin cities.

Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany
(Since 1981)

YTA Board Officers & Chairpersons

BOARD OFFICERS

Co-Presidents: Doug & Betty Stein
Vice President: **POSITION OPEN**
Secretary: Michele Groat
Treasurer: JaNeene Powell
Asst. Treasurer: Kyle Groft
French Adult Exchange:
Jennifer Grim, Diane Reimert
French Student Exchange:
Kristin Witmer, Kristi Spies
German Adult Exchange:
Hank & Michele Groat
German Student Exchange:
Molly Wiles **CO-CHAIR NEEDED**
12th Night Home Tour Co-chairs:
Jessie Henning* & Amy Matthews*
Webmaster: Ken Krause*
Membership Chair: JaNeene Powell
General Fundraising: **POSITION OPEN**
Marketing / PR: **POSITION OPEN**
Compliance Officer: **POSITION OPEN**
***Denotes Board Directors**

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Newsletter: Betty Stein
Spring Wine Tasting Social: JaNeene Powell
Summer Social/Bastille Day: **OPEN**
Fall Oktoberfest: Hank & Michele Groat
Hospitality for In Person Meetings: Kristi Spies

On July 17, 2026 Betty & Doug Stein met with York's Mayor Sandie Walker to introduce her to York Twinning Association and its mission. She is interested in continuing relationships with York's "Twin" cities and would like to pursue providing cultural experiences for York City students. She is holding the Protocole D'Amitie signed in Arles September 24, 2024 by Mayor Carolis and Mayor Helfrich.

YTA Calendar of Meetings & Social Events

MEETING DATES

Unless otherwise notified, future Board and membership meetings will held in the Loucks Room at York YMCA, the third Wednesday of the month, as listed below, from 6:30-8:30 P.M., both in-person and via ZOOM.

All meetings are open to both Board and General Membership. Meetings will be followed by a short social time. Agendas, in-person and ZOOM links will be sent out one week prior to meeting.

2026 MEETING DATES

September 20th—Oktoberfest Celebration—Lancaster Liederkranz, Manheim, PA
October 21st—Short Board meeting followed by reception for people to share summer photos from trip to Leinfelden-Echterdingen
November 18th - Board/budget meeting
December—No formal meeting.

SOCIAL EVENTS

Fall 2026: Oktoberfest celebration – September 20, 2026

Winter 2027: 12th Night Holiday Home Tour, January 3, 2027

Spring 2027: Wine Tasting Social—TBD

Summer 2027: Summer Social/Bastille Day

WHAT'S YOUR STORY ???

How have you been involved with YTA? Did you travel to Arles or Leinfelden-Echterdingen? Were you a host for visitors during one of our exchanges? Maybe you attended or volunteered during one of our events. Maybe you still maintain close relationships with friends you met through YTA. By sharing photos and stories we hope to rebuild relationships, reconnect with friends with whom we may have lost contact, and encourage others to join our association. Please consider sending us your photos and memories to share in future issues of Tete. Send information to:

j1j2j31@comcast.net
Subject line: YTA Memories

- -

A Life Changing Experience! Submitted by Mary Robinson

Mary Wampler was my college roommate at Millersville from 1979 to 1984 where we were both attending French graduate school. We both loved it!

Mary Robinson and Nancy Wampler 1985 in Arles, France.

In 1985 Nancy invited me to join York Twinning Association. I was thrilled. On a visit to Arles, Sabine and Michele Niquet welcomed me. They were absolutely charming. We are still friends today with Michele, her husband Laurent and their daughter Maxine.

Mary and daughter Jocelyn with our French friends

In 1993 my 7 year old daughter came with me to Arles. The Niquet family was wonderful to her. We went on the double decker merry-go-round! They bought her a provencale skirt and even took us to the new McDonalds there!

Jean Laurain & French friends with Jocelyn and Mary in Arles

Arles 1993 - Jocelyn, Michele, Laurent, Henri & Sabine Niquet, Michele's parents

Arles 1993 - Laurent, Michele, Jocelyn, Henri Niquet (Michele's dad)

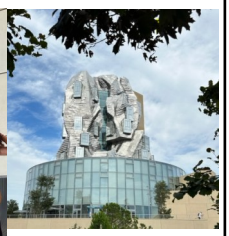
We have so many happy memories of all our fun. Michele and her family have extended their twinning visits twice to come stay with us in Delaware. We feel very lucky to have such great friends in Arles.

Son-in-law Jason, Jocelyn, Mary, Michele, Laurent, daughter Maxine at Nemours Estate in Wilmington, DE

Mary, Laurent, my husband Lee, Michele & daughter Maxine at Cabela's where my husband worked.

I continue to enjoy traveling to Arles and participating in activities and using my French to help translate when the visitors from Arles come to York to visit . . .

Michele and Mary at lunch in Arles during a YTA 2023 exchange visit.



Mary and Marie-France enjoying the slide inside Arles' Luma Tower in 2023

Mary enjoying a relaxing boat ride at Lake Meade in East Berlin during the 2026 Summer French Exchange to York

Mary with Marie-France and her husband Alex during a visit to Lancaster during the 2026 Summer French Exchange to York

. . . and it all started with York Twinning Association!

AN UNFORGETTABLE OPPORTUNITY

YTA Student Exchange to Leinfelden-Echterdingen (LE), Germany
June 11th to June 25th

Submitted by Lynn Leonard, German teacher, South Western High School

The York Twinning Association (YTA) exchange trip to Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany was an unforgettable opportunity for our students to experience German language and culture firsthand. Students stepped outside the classroom and used their German in real-life situations while exploring new places, traditions, foods, and everyday life in Germany.

One of the most meaningful parts of the experience was the chance to live with host families and form friendships that extended far beyond the school day. We are incredibly grateful to our hosts for welcoming our students so warmly and giving them an authentic glimpse into life in Germany.

A huge thank you also goes to YTA for organizing and supporting this exchange and making such a valuable experience possible. We appreciate the many teachers, families, chaperones, organizers, and community members who contributed their time and energy along the way. This trip gave our students memories, friendships, and confidence in their German that we hope will stay with them for years to come.

A WONDERFUL EXCHANGE EXPERIENCE!

YTA Student Exchange to Arles, France
July 13th to July 27th; July 27th to August 10th

Submitted by Kristi Spies, Middle and Upper School French Teacher, York Country Day School

The York Twinning Association (YTA) student exchange took place July 13th through July 27th in France and July 28th through August 10th in York. Audrianna Dusseau, a 2026 graduate of New Oxford High School represented YTA very well. Together, with my host and Club de Jumelage member Marie-France Espinat, we enjoyed several excursions. We dined with Evelyne Laurent on board a boat in Arles and visited the town center during a World Cup match. We also took a cruise on the Rhone River and we were able to see the wild horses and black bulls of Le Carmague along with many beautiful birds. We were accompanied by both Evelyne Laurent and Michele Laffe and enjoyed a picnic together after the cruise. I was lucky to visit Avignon with Marie-France and even got to see a play during the famous Avignon Theatre Festival.

While state side, Marie-France, Alex, and their son Thomas enjoyed a visit to Fort McHenry and Gettysburg with my family as well as dinner invitations from the Stein and Groat families. Audrianna took Gabrielle, her French exchange visitor, to New York allowing Gabrielle to realize a life long dream. The second week of their visit, our French friends enjoyed many events planned for the adult exchange. Audrianna and Gabrielle joined the adult group for a bus trip to Washington, DC then wrapped up the visit to York with a wonderful farewell party that included country line dancing. It was a wonderful exchange experience for everyone!

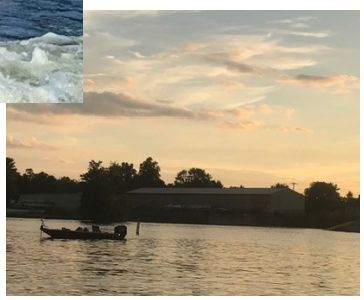
FRENCH ADULT EXCHANGE MEMORIES—SUMMER 2026

Submitted by Betty Stein

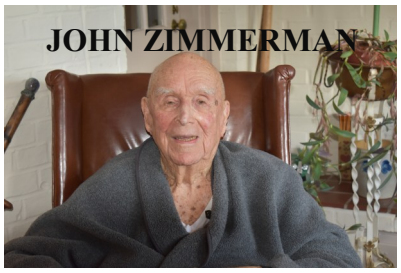
York Twinning Association hosted Marie-France Espinat, her husband Alex, and son Thomas from Arles, France during our Summer 2026 adult exchange. A planning committee lead by co-chairs Jennifer Grim and Diane Reimert planned out a full itinerary for the August 3rd through August 10th visit.

August 3rd Marie-France and husband Alex were welcomed by hosts Betty & Doug Stein. Thomas was welcomed by hosts Kyle and Launa Groft.

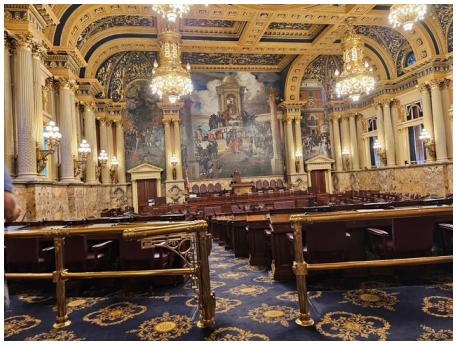
August 4th members of York Twinning Association (YTA) and our French visitors were greeted and welcomed to York City at York's Colonial Courthouse by Mayor Sandie Walker. Our visitors were then presented "goodie" bags from Bronley Martin and Sarah O'Brien representing York County Economic Alliance/Downtown Inc. and also received an additional bag, filled with coupons for local vendors, compiled by YTA members Jeff and Renee Miller. Betty & Doug Stein provided a tour of the Colonial Courthouse before the group progressed across the street for a guided tour of the Gates House and Plow Tavern. Afterwards the group walked to the new History Center for a self-guided tour before meeting at Central Market for lunch. Our visitors ended their day dining, tubing, and boating on Lake Meade with Jennifer & Jack Grim, Diane Reimert, Bob Goley, Mary Robinson, and Scott Markle.



August 5th was another busy day. Our visitors and YTA members toured the historically renovated Zimmerman Center, donated in 2007 to the Susquehanna Heritage by John and Kathyrn Zimmerman. While there we learned about Native American history, toured the Center, then enjoyed a relaxing ride on the Susquehanna River in Chief Uncas, a 1912 electric wooden boat. Chief Uncas was built for Adolphus Busch who was a co-founder of the well-known American Anheuser-Busch beer company. Before the boat was acquired by the Susquehanna National Heritage Area, Busch used it for cruising Otsego Lake at his summer estate in Cooperstown, New York, located at the headwaters of the Susquehanna River. Thank you to Jennifer and Jack Grim for arranging this tour and to 102 year old John Zimmerman for his donation to YTA helping to make this event possible. Afterwards we all enjoyed a picnic lunch before heading home. Marie-France, Alex, Thomas, Betty & Doug Stein and Scott Markle made an extra stop at the Eisenhauer Harley-Davidson store and museum for some souvenirs and fun photos.



August 6th was spent visiting Pennsylvania's Capitol Building in Harrisburg. Our group was able to see the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Chamber which features a large mural called *The Apotheosis of Pennsylvania*, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court Chamber, decorated with beautiful murals depicting the story of Divine Law to the law of the Commonwealth, the Capitol Rotunda featuring a fantastic stained glass dome, and the grand staircase that was modeled after the staircase found in the Paris Opera House. They also got to see, and sit in, a replica of The Rising Sun Chair purchased for the Capitol Building in 1987. The original, located in Independence Hall in Philadelphia, was used by George Washington during the 1787 Constitutional Convention while presiding over Continental Congress. The carving of the Rising Sun was interpreted by Benjamin Franklin as being a sign symbolizing hope for the future of the new nation. Thank you to YTA member Jane Best for arranging this tour!

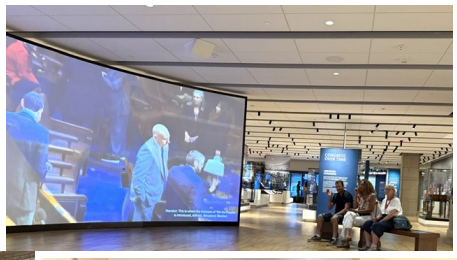


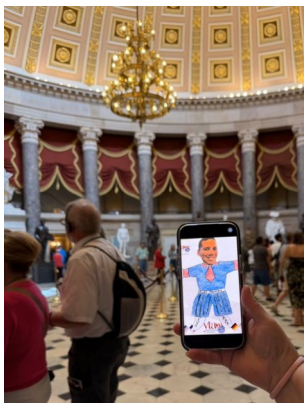
August 7th— Early 8 AM start today for our bus trip to Washington, D.C. Upon arrival we took a short walk to the U.S. Capitol Visitor's Center for a scheduled tour of the Capitol Building.

August 7th—Washington, D.C. trip (continued)

Before describing the rest of our visit you need to know about "Flat Thomas" who will appear in some photos. Thomas really wanted to visit Washington D.C. but was required to return to France for work on August 7th. So he could experience Washington, D.C. with our group, Betty created a "Flat Thomas" after a character in a children's book titled ***Flat Stanley*** that Marie-France took along with her.

While waiting for our tour to begin we had a chance to visit the gift shop and view displays in Emancipation Hall. After viewing a short video about the Capitol Building we were lead by a very animated guide through different sections and rooms. We walked through the Capitol Crypt that houses statues representing the 13 original colonies and a replica of the Magna Carta, the Capitol Rotunda with amazing historical paintings, and also saw the magnificent dome, located 180 feet above the floor, with its circular fresco "The Apotheosis of Washington" painted by Constantino Brumidi.





Following the tour we headed to the Capitol cafeteria for a yummy lunch! The rest of the day people were free to visit other Smithsonian museums, walk around the Capitol grounds, visit the Botanica Gardens, or visit monuments along the National Mall. Some places people visited were the National Museum of the American Indian, the Botanical Gardens, The National Archives Museum, the National Museum of Natural History, and the National Museum of American History.

August 7th—Washington, D.C. trip (continued)

Before leaving Washington, D.C. our bus driver was kind enough to drive us around while Scott Markle pointed out important landmarks. Thank you to Lisa Rees for arranging bus transportation for our group and to YTA member Scott Markle for arranging a tour of the U.S. Capitol Building for us. It was a great day!

August 8th included two events. The first part of the day, YTA member Mary Robinson, took Marie-France and Alex to Lancaster to see an Amish Farm and take an Amish buggy ride. Thank you to Mary for taking charge of this trip and for all her help translating information throughout the week!

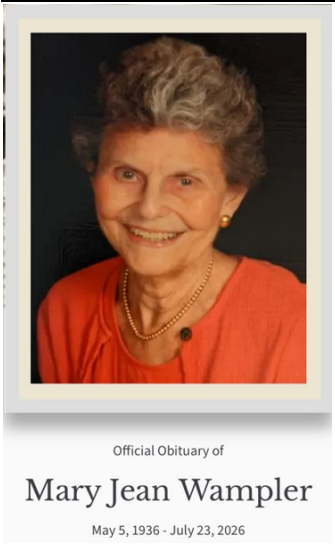
August 8th - The evening of August 8th a summer celebration and farewell dinner for our French visitors was held from 6 PM to 9 PM at Lake Meade Community Center in East Berlin. York's Mayor Sandie Walker and husband joined YTA members, friends, and our French visitors for fun and fellowship during a catered dinner, music by a DJ, and country line dancing! It was the perfect way to wrap up a week filled with fun, adventures, and wonderful memories. Thank you to Diane Reimert and Jennifer Grim for arranging this great event.

August 9th - Today was a day for our French visitors to catch up on rest and get packed for the trip home and the day to say goodbye to Scott Markle. Thank you Scott for all your help providing transportation to events for our guests during the adult exchange week.

August 10th - The two week YTA French exchange was filled with fun memories, laughter, and new friendships. Although it's time to say goodbye, we look forward to seeing you again and making more memories together.

Au Revoir et bon voyage Marie-France,
Alex, and Gabrielle!

Remembering Friends and Members



Mary Jean Wampler, age 90, of Tequesta, Florida, more recently of Bethlehem, and formerly of York, died on Thursday, July 23, 2026 at Saint Luke's University Hospital, in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. She was the beloved wife of both the late Philip Roseberry, MD, and the late M. John Wampler, Jr., MD.

Born May 5, 1936, in Norfolk, Virginia, she was a daughter of Col. John P. Simpson, Jr., and Jean (Innes) Williams. She graduated from Ashley Hall in Charleston, SC, attended Duke University where she met her first husband, Phil, and later received her bachelor's degree in English from York College. She taught for various York area school districts for several years and then worked in human resources for the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania until her retirement.

Mary Jean, also known as MJ, moved to York with Phil in 1957 and finally was able to put down roots after a somewhat itinerant childhood. She served on many local boards, including the YWCA and the Junior League, and chaired the York Hospital Medical Auxiliary and the York Historical Society. She enjoyed her volunteer work reading newspapers for York's radio station for the blind, particularly when performing the characters' voices while reading the comics. Her volunteer shifts at the Junior League's Thrift Shop on Market Street allowed her to serve the community and shop at the same time. Win-win as they say.

After she was widowed at age 49, she found a wonderful second life with John, and in retirement they enjoyed their time traveling as snowbirds between York and Tequesta, FL. They had deep theological discussions, attended many musical performances, enjoyed supporting local restaurants, completed hundreds of crossword puzzles together, and he introduced her to Costco hotdogs, which were her simple, guilty pleasure later in life. Above all, they truly enjoyed each other's company.

Mary Jean had a wonderful community of friends in York, with whom she traveled to York's twin cities, Arles, France and Leinfelden-Echterdingen, Germany, square danced, and had both monthly supper clubs and wine tastings. She loved snorkeling in the Caribbean, a good Mardi Gras celebration, a Kentucky Derby party complete with mint juleps, and York County fresh produce, especially the sweet corn and peaches. Her laughter was a delight, and she could have a devilish twinkle in her eyes that belied her southern belle origins, so one wondered what shenanigans she was concocting. She was remarkable for not letting life's many challenges get the best of her, and she never gave up.

She was a member of Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church York, and Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Tequesta, Florida. She served on the vestry at Saint Andrew's and was authorized as a lay eucharistic minister. Her interest in theology led to her completing a four-year distance learning program in 2007 from the University of the South in Theological Education. Her volunteer work at Good Shepherd's thrift shop, Pennies from Heaven, was a highlight of her week while she was in Florida.

Mary Jean is survived by a daughter, Catharine M. Roseberry, and her husband Jonathan Dale, of Bethlehem; a son, Philip A. Roseberry, and his wife Robin, of Dover; John's children, Scott D. Wampler (Yukiko Ishida, DMA), of Wynnewood, Douglas J. Wampler (Darcelle), of York, and Allison E. Mitchell (Steven Rastatter), of Eatontown, New Jersey; eleven grandchildren, eight great grandchildren; a brother, Cmdr. John P. Simpson, III, (ret'd) of Annapolis, Maryland; and a sister, Meade Fasciano of Cambridge, Massachusetts. In addition to her husbands, she was also preceded in death by a grandson, Evan M. Rastatter, and three step siblings, Craig, Constance, and Tama Williams.

A memorial service is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. Saturday, September 26, 2026, at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1502 4th Avenue, York. Private burial will be in Prospect Hill Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, 1502 4th Avenue, York, PA 17403, Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 400 Seabrook Road, Tequesta, FL 33469, or Doctors Without Borders.

Cards and messages of condolence can be sent to:
Family of Mary Jean Wampler
c/o Phil and Robin Roseberry
3030 Cypress Road
Dover, PA 17315

* * * * * * * * * *

Kathleen (Kathy) Landis Rauhauser, 79, of York, passed away peacefully on August 1st at York Hospital, surrounded by the love of her family. She was the daughter of the late Judge John Franklin Rauhauser, Jr. and Dorothy Romaine Landis Rauhauser.

Kathy loved her family deeply. She was immensely proud of her children and grandchildren, celebrating their accomplishments and carrying them in her heart always. She also cherished the lifelong bonds she shared with her sisters, nieces and nephews, and many dear friends. She is survived by her son, Jason Andrew Matthews, and her grandchildren, Lucas Matthews and Brynnley Matthews, all of Harrisburg; her daughter, Amy Elizabeth Matthews, and son-in-law, Christopher Adams, of York; her sisters, Marjory Marsh and her husband, the Rev. John E. Marsh, and Elizabeth Stein and her husband, Douglas Stein; 5 nieces, 1 nephew, 6 great-nephews, 7 great-nieces.

Kathy also treasured the lifelong friendships she formed through the American Field Service exchange program. She is survived by her AFS exchange sister, Elisabeth Haemmig of Switzerland; Gudrun Kastrup of Germany and her family; and the family of her exchange sister, the late Susana Marche Escola, including her husband, Ernesto Escola, and daughter, Natalie DeMetrick, of Lutherville, Maryland.

She dedicated her professional life to serving others. After retiring from the Commonwealth's York County Board of Assistance, she continued helping those in need as an independent advocate at the New Cumberland Military Installation, an independent crisis worker for York County Mental Health, and as a Mary Kay Consultant.

Remembering Friends and Members (continued)

A passionate advocate for equality and justice, Kathy devoted countless hours to improving her community. She served as president of the York Chapter of the National Organization for Women, the York County Federation of Democratic Women, and the York Twinning Association. She was a lifelong feminist who believed deeply in using her voice to uplift others, champion fairness, and create opportunities for women and families.

Kathy was a member of Heidelberg United Church of Christ, the York County Task Force Against Domestic Violence, the Woman's Club of York, Past President of York Twinning Association, and the York Area Bird Club. Her commitment to advocacy, compassion, and service touched countless lives and left a lasting impact on the York community.

Those who knew Kathy will remember her vibrant personality, quick wit, the joy she found in party planning, and her unmistakable glitz-and-glam style. Her philosophy was that you could never have too much jewelry or too many beautiful dishes. She was fiercely competitive around the Scrabble board, widely regarded by family and friends as the undisputed "Queen of Scrabble." Games with Kathy were filled with laughter, spirited challenges, and an impressive vocabulary that few could match.

Kathleen also loved birds. She was predeceased by her beloved Grey-cheeked parakeet, Marcel, and her Ruby-breasted grass parakeet, Jasper. In her later years, she found great comfort in the companionship of her Grey-cheeked parakeet, Grayson, who has since found a loving new home in New York.

Above all, Kathleen will be remembered for the fierce love she had for her family. She celebrated their accomplishments, offered unwavering encouragement, and created a legacy of strength, compassion, resilience, and advocacy that will continue through the generations she loved so deeply.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, August 15, 2026, at Kuhner Associates Funeral Directors, Inc., 863 South George Street, York, with The Rev. D. Marie Tribble, from Heidelberg United Church of Christ, officiating. Interment followed at Greenmount Cemetery accompanied by Bagpipe player Rodney Yeaple.

Memorial contributions may be made to YWCA York https://ywcayork.org for victim services through Access York, 320 East Market Street, York, PA 17403.

Cards and messages of condolence can be sent to:

Family of Kathleen Rauhauser
c/o Amy Matthews
461 Ludlow Avenue
York, PA 17403

SAVE THE DATE JANUARY 3, 2027

York Twinning 12th Night Holiday Tour

York Twinning Association's annual 12th Night Holiday Tour will take place on January 3, 2026 from 1 to 5 PM and showcase five beautiful homes in the Chestnut Ridge Development in York Township. Three of these home were Stoltzfus homes built as part of a planned residential development in the early 2000's that have since been completely renovated. The two other locations include an English Tudor home and a charming farmhouse that dates back to the early 1900s. Tickets for the tour are $25. More tour information, along with tickets to purchase and sell, will be mailed to YTA members in November.

Help support YTA's largest annual fundraiser!

Purchase tickets and/or donate to the event.

Promote the tour with your family and friends and share YTA's social media posts.

Volunteer for a two-hour shift to be a YTA greeter/ticket checker at tour locations.

Donate cookies and baked goods for the event day. Interested in volunteering or donating baked goods? Contact Amy Matthews at amymatthews@hotmail.com or 717-495-9970.

yta
York Twinning Association

P.0.Box 21318
York, Pennsylvania 17402