



## Kathryn A. "Kate" Heckard

March 8, 1925 - March 8, 2013

Kathryn A. "Kate" Heckard, 88, Lebanon, passed away on Friday, March 8, 2013 at her residence. She was the wife of the late Ralph T. Heckard, Jr. She was born in Lebanon on July 27, 1924, a daughter of the late Jones Roscoe and Florence Catherine Heilman Albert.

Kate was very proud of being a graduate of the Lebanon Valley College Conservatory of Music. She was a member of Nu Chapter Delta Kappa Gamma, Harmonia Music Association, and the American Association of University Women. Kate traveled extensively throughout Europe with the Pennsylvania Ambassadors for Music. She enjoyed spending many summers performing with Saratoga Potsdam Performing Arts Center. She was a member of St. Paul's UCC, Schaefferstown, where she was choir director for many years.

Kate was a vocal music teacher and supervisor in public education for 40 years. She was employed by the Lebanon School District from 1952 thru her retirement in 1990. Her greatest love outside her family was the success of her music students. These were continuous challenges of creating and achieving what turned out to be decades of successful musical performances and musicians for the school community. She set the standards of expectation high.

She is survived by sons, E. Scott, husband of Christina Heckard, Annapolis, MD; Barry L., husband of Judy Heckard, Lebanon; Dennis R., husband of Barbara Heckard, Sequim, WA; grandchildren, Catherine Denise Stewart;

Nicholas, husband of Gina Heckard; Nancy Kathryn "Kassy" Heckard; Molly Heckard; great grandchildren, Catie, Sophie and Ozzie Stewart; brother, Edward John, husband of Geraldine Albert, Lebanon; sister in law, Margareta Albert, Annville; numerous nephews and nieces. She was preceded in death by brothers, Carl, Eugene "Dutch", Ross and Calvin "Chet" Albert.

Family and friends are respectfully invited to attend Kate's funeral services on Thursday, March 14, 2013 at 10:30 AM from Porterfield –Scheid Funeral Directors & Cremation Services, Ltd., 890 Isabel Drive, (next to Quentin Circle), Lebanon, with the Rev. Dr. Jason E. Royle officiating. Burial will be made in Hill Church Cemetery, Cleona. Friends will be received Thursday beginning at 9:00 AM to service time at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers memorial remembrances in Kate's memory may be made to the Cedar Foundation, LHS Vocal Music Department, 1000 S. 8th Street, Lebanon, PA 17042.

# Tribute Wall



“ Kathryn A. "Kate" Heckard

October 22, 2023 at 10:35 PM



“ Kathryn A. "Kate" Heckard

October 06, 2023 at 08:29 AM



“ Kathryn A. "Kate" Heckard

October 05, 2023 at 11:43 PM



“ TO A VERY NICE PERSON WHO REALLY ENJOY HER MUSIC AND TEACH ME THINGS I DIDN,T KNOW ABOUT SOME MUSIC AND I ENJOY LISTEN TO A LOT OF MUSIC AND I FINISH IN 1984I WILL MISS YOU FROM BLANCHE M.SEIVERLING MARRIEDI

**BLANCHEGRIFFIN - palmyra, PA - MUSIC TEACHER IN SCHOOL - May 01, 2013 at 12:00 AM**



“ Offering my deepest sympathy to the Heckard Family at this time of sorrow and loss. Celebrate a long life well lived sharing the gift of music! The seemingly countless number of students whose musical abilities were developed and refined by Mrs. Heckard over the decades is a lasting tribute to a woman whose passion for education could not be surpassed. Blessings to all.

**John Shott - March 25, 2013 at 12:00 AM**

SL

“ I am so sorry for our loss. Mrs. Heckard was one of a kind. I sang in her choir at Lebanon High School, was in a musical, and went to Europe with the PA Ambassadors of Music with her as a chaperone. I will always know how to sing properly thanks to her- even now, I make sure I breathe and sing the way she taught me! I will always be thankful to her for treaching all of us the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's Messiah- I have it memorized and I love singing it! She was one of the best teachers and mentors I have had in my life and I am very glad I had the chance to be one of her students. Heaven has a new choir director.....and you know she will do it right!

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**Susan Gigler - Reston, VA - Student- LHS** - March 20, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ Necessary typo correction to the tribute in the last poem :When it is over .....I don't want to find myself sighing

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**Mary Ehrgood - Boulder, CO - Friend** - March 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM

MF

“ There is a poem or two , by Mary Oliver, and they 'belong' to Mrs. Heckard. I kept thinking of you last week and did not call :( I hope you hear my gratitude in these- and make them into your own

heavenly music: *The Turtle*  
breaks from the blue-black  
skin of the water, dragging her shell  
with its mossy scutes  
across the shallows and through the  
rushes  
and over the mudflats, to the uprise,  
to the yellow sand,  
to dig with her ungainly feet  
a nest, and hunker there spewing  
her white eggs down  
into the darkness, and you think

of her patience, her fortitude,  
her determination to complete  
what she was born to do~  
and then you realize a greater thing~  
she doesn't consider  
what she was born to do.  
She's only filled  
with an old blind wish.  
It isn't even hers but came to her  
in the rain or the soft wind,  
which is a gate through which her  
life keeps walking.

She can't see  
herself apart from the rest of the world  
or the world from what she must do  
every spring.  
Crawling up the high hill,  
luminous under the sand that has  
packed against her skin.

*she doesn't dream  
she knows  
she is a part of the pond she lives in,  
AND from When Death Comes  
When it's over, I want to say: all my life  
I was a bride married to amazement.  
I was a bridegroom, taking the world  
into my arms.  
When it's over, I don't want to wonder  
if I have made of my life something  
particular, and real.  
I don't want to find myself singing  
and frightened,  
or full of argument .*

*Thank you for being so real and a part of this world . I am grateful  
for the time when you also were such a big part of mine.*

*I don't want to end up simply having  
visited this world .*

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**Mary Ehrgood - Boulder, CO - family friend - March 15, 2013 at 12:00 AM**

SF

“ *Words can not convey the sadness in hearing about the loss of such a tremendous influence on so many people's lives. Kate filled our lives with nuance and culture, while making us strive.. Not to be better... But "The Best" at everything we do. I loved her for everything she showed me and utilize her practices to this day. She will be deeply missed. So long... you Hot Mama, you!*

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**Steve Grabusky - North Port, FL - Student - Friend - March 14, 2013 at 12:00 AM**

NS

“ To Scott, Barry and Dennis,

*When I heard of your mother's passing I thought of the goods times we had at Henry Houck Jr. High. Your mother inspired me and many others to always try to do our best in any circumstance. She also was one of the reasons that I taught music for 35 years. I will never forget the wonderful times we had and how she helped me through the years, just to have her in my thoughts.*

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**Ned Trautman - Fuquay-Varina, NC - student** - March 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

DF

“ *It is with deep regret and sincere sympathy I learned of the passing of Mrs. Heckard. Rare is the teacher who meets a stranger, takes them under her wing and changes their life. Kate saw things in me I didn't see in myself. She drew them out, sometimes kicking and screaming, until I realized my potential. She truly has helped shape my life and I am eternally grateful. While I haven't seen her in many years, I never discount what she has done for me and what I now pass on to my own children and their friends. Mrs. Heckard was one of a kind and I am positive she is directing a heavenly host of angels as I write. Bless you Mrs. Heckard for all you have done and all the lives you have changed.*

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**David Lantz - Lebanon, PA - Student and friend** - March 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

BP

“ *Mrs. Heckard was the type of teacher the school district could surely use today. She had a strong personality on the exterior, but a soft kind heart on the inside. Her high school musical productions were equivalent to Broadway Shows. She will be missed.*

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**Barbara Grabusky - Palmyra, PA** - March 13, 2013 at 12:00 AM

CB

“*Mrs. Heckard was my Music Teacher at what was then Henry Houck Jr. High. She was an extraordinary teacher who challenged us to be the best musicians we could be. Because of her I became a Music Teacher and spent 38 years teaching vocal and instrumental music to all age groups. She will not be forgotten.*

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**Carol(Goodman) Barrows** - March 12, 2013 at 12:00 AM