



Cathie Derer McCue

October 10, 1945 - March 26, 2021

Cathie L Derer McCue passed away on Friday, March 26, 2021.

She was born October 10, 1945, in Chicago, IL, the youngest child of Joseph George Derer and Louise Margaret (Theisen) Derer. The family lived in Wauconda, IL, where she attended school and graduated from Wauconda High School in 1963. As a young girl, she fell in love with ballet, took numerous classes, and, at the age of 14, herself began teaching dance. In her early 20's, Cathie danced with an Adage team of a New York City ballet company for several years, then returned to Wauconda, IL, to open her own studio. Later she moved her studio to Lake Zurich, IL.

On August 13, 1977, Cathie married Thomas E McCue, and they made their home in Mundelein, IL. She continued to operate Derer Academy of Dance in Lake Zurich until the couple moved to Lake Villa, IL, where she opened a third studio in the early 80's.

After 20 years of dance, Cathie discovered Pilates as a way to aid her students in optimal performance and, 1200 hours of rigorous training later, became one of less than 200 certified Pilates instructors in the country. Soon, she realized that Pilates could benefit not just dancers and so began teaching the method both as a rehabilitative and a proactive health measure to a wide variety of students. She later added Craniosacral therapy to her repertoire.

Over more than 60 years, “Miss Cathie,” as many of her students fondly referred to her, was teacher, counselor, life mentor, and second mother to hundreds of girls, young, and not-so-young women and men. A person of amazing energy and perseverance, she was habitually cheerful, generous, and freely gave of her time above and beyond work relationships. Her job was always more about service than employment, and she truly was a person who “in everything worked at it with all her heart, as working for the Lord,” to whom she regularly gave credit.

Besides helping others to maintain healthy bodies, Cathie’s other passions included her pet macaw, Cooper, and her dogs, Gibbet and Smookie, with whom she worked on agility training. She also liked waterskiing, and spent many long hours on her gardens, particularly her roses.

Cathie left this life for her new eternal one on March 26, 2021, at Condell Hospital in Libertyville, IL. She will always be remembered by the many who loved her as a strong, caring, and compassionate human being.

Cathie is survived by her husband Tom McCue of Lake Villa, IL; her brother Gary J Derer of Dallas, TX; her brother-in-law Karl J Luomala of Waukegan, IL; her nieces Laura L Ricci (Stephen) of Hilliard, OH; Natalie A Rice (Michael) of Genoa City, WI; Tina M Neubeck (Michael) of Montgomery, TX, Haley Nicole Derer of Dallas, TX; her nephew Keith J Luomala (Carolyn) of Houston, TX; cousins Sandy Pangratz (Joseph) of Iron River, MI; Kim Schroeder (Michael) of Island Lake, IL; and Ronald Reader of Ocala, FL; as well as 13 great nieces and nephews and 5 great-great nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph George Derer and Louise Margaret (Theisen) Derer, and her sister Sharon L Derer Luomala.

May the memory of this wonderful woman be blessed.

Visitation will be 3-7 p.m. on Monday, April 5, 2021 at Ringa Funeral Home, 122 S. Milwaukee Ave. Lake Villa, IL 60046. Funeral Mass will be at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at Prince of Peace Church 135 S. Milwaukee Ave. Lake Villa, IL 60046. Please meet directly at church.

If you plan to attend Mass, the church asks that you please pre-register using this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/cathiemccuefuneral>

Burial will follow at Windridge Memorial Park in Cary, IL

Cemetery Details

Windridge Memorial Park

7014 S Rawson Bridge Rd
Cary, IL 60013

Previous Events

Visitation

APR 5. 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Ringa Funeral Home
122 S. Milwaukee Ave.
Lake Villa, IL 60046
(847) 356-2146
info@ringafuneralhome.com
<https://www.ringafuneralhome.com>

Funeral Mass

APR 6. 11:00 AM.

Prince Of Peace Church

Tribute Wall



“ *Cathie Derer McCue*

October 04, 2023 at 02:13 PM



“ *Cathie Derer McCue*

December 31, 2022 at 11:36 AM

MS

“ I just Googled the Derer Academy of Dance on a whim and found this memorial page. I'm so sorry to see that Miss Cathie has passed. She was my first dance teacher when I was five years old and she was just the right combination of sternness and kindness for me as a shy but intense child. I spent all my spare time practicing my "Tiger Lil" recital piece at home because I wanted to do it perfectly for Miss Cathie. I knew it so well that Miss Cathie put me in the middle of the front row so that the other dancers could watch me - a true point of pride for me!

Miss Cathie sparked a love of ballet in me that continued after we moved away a few months later; I ended up studying ballet very seriously for more than 20 years and considered a career in dance but ended up going another direction. My own daughter is now a young dancer and has seen the photos and 8mm home movies of me in that first recital. I have told her about Miss Cathie and how much I looked up to the Supersations - and of course I still remember every move of Tiger Lil. Dance studios in small towns are so important and Miss Cathie created a vital legacy with the Derer Academy of Dance. She blessed so many with the love of this art form!

- Meredith S., New York, New York

Meredith S - September 27, 2021 at 03:40 PM

BS

“ Not quite a third of the way into our freshman year of high school, I moved to Wauconda...knew no one; knew not my way around the school or the town. Then, there by my side was Cathie, a gift ~ a friendship that would weather time and distance. We've not remained in close contact, but always close at heart. I do not know a kinder soul and count myself blessed to know her. If I could speak to Cathie now, I would share this poem I wrote some time ago.

" On Parting "

(by barbara philips smith)

*May there always be some matter
unfinished between us...*

*A word unspoken,
a tear not quite dry*

*For then,
we can never say good-bye.*

Barbara Philips Smith - April 06, 2021 at 02:37 PM

CR

“ Cathie gave of herself to all who knew her. She loved her animals and flowers. Cathie will be missed.

Carrie Reining - April 02, 2021 at 10:02 PM

DS

“ I first met Cathie at a dinner I attended with my wife Mary who being involved in the plastics industry met a man who was a client to her company. Cathie had been working with the client's girlfriend who had MS as I do and she said wonderful things about Cathie helping her. I soon started working with Cathie McCue or should I say, she started working with me. I was impressed by her work regimen and yes she was tough, trying to get me to do her Pilates exercises in order to restrengthen my body. Every other week for well over ten years I came and she had me howling in pain sometimes from her pressure point techniques and yet I was getting better each time. She was a fantastic encouraging person who always sought the best for me, and yet she had a full time job teaching classes in Pilates and taking her beloved dogs to agility classes. I met a good number of them from Push the Doberman and Smookie the miniature Australian Shepherd to finally Gibot her last dog who had a mind of his own yet obeyed Cathie in everything! All of her dogs went to agility courses that Cathie ran through with them. It will be hard now to go through the rest of my life knowing that I won't see her again until I go Heaven to be with Jesus and there she will be! Smiling as always. RIP dear lady, your trial is over the cancer is gone and you are rejoicing in eternity with our beloved Savior Jesus.

Don Sieger - April 02, 2021 at 07:09 PM



“ Be My Love Bouquet with Red Roses was purchased for the family of Cathie Derer McCue.



March 31, 2021 at 10:26 AM

RS

“ *My sincere condolences to Tom and brother Gary. One of my earliest memories of Cathie is when she sacrificed much of her grade school lunch hour in order to help run the candy counter in her mom's store/restaurant across the street from the school. She was always smiling--the same smile I would see 25 years later when I saw her and Tom water skiing on Bangs Lake. I am indeed sad.*

Ron Vaughan Sr.

ronald vaughan sr - March 30, 2021 at 05:33 PM

KM

My thoughts and prayers are with Miss Cathie and her family. She taught my sisters and I ballet for many years. She was the kindest teacher. I was happy when my own daughter took ballet lessons as I could pass it on. We live in Kansas but thought fondly of her over the years. God Bless. Wauconda class of 1980. Kelley Dale- Marshall

Kelley Dale- Marshall - April 01, 2021 at 11:28 AM

LT

“ *Cathie was a kind, bright light. She cared so much for her students and their families. Her love and guidance was such a blessing. God has gained a beautiful angel.*

Lisa Topel - March 30, 2021 at 05:00 PM



“ *3 files added to the album Family*



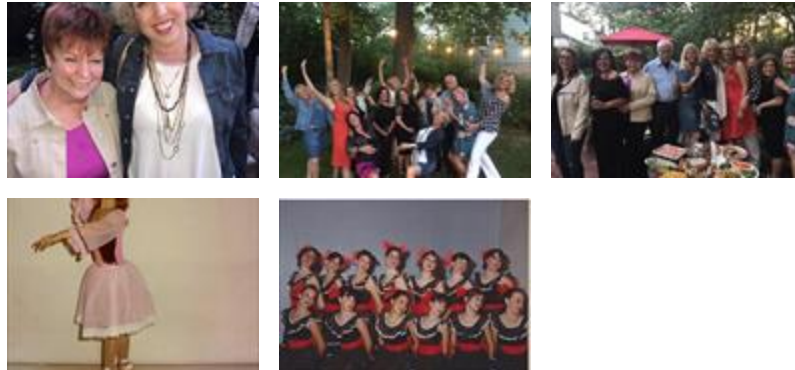
Michael Neubeck - March 30, 2021 at 08:10 AM

PV

“ I started dancing when I was 7 years old. I was very fortunate to study with phenomenal teacher, Miss Cathie L McCue. I didn't know it when I began, but she would become the most influential person, aside from my parents, in my young life. She had a passion, not only for dance, but for her students. She believed that we could be better than we knew and pushed us towards perfection. She taught us the value of accomplishments through hard work. She was tough, but loving. I am a better person because she was in my life.

I grew up at Derer Academy of Dance. I walked directly there after school nearly every day. Miss Cathie created a family of dancers. Being an only child, these girls were my sisters and I developed life-long friends that I will forever cherish.

Cathie will live on in all whose lives she touched. I know that she is dancing with the angels and I will love her, always. RIP



Pamela VanLeirsburg - March 29, 2021 at 01:15 PM