



## Barbara Ann Kelly

November 20, 1953 - August 2, 2023

Barbara Kelly, lovingly known as Nana, passed away peacefully at home on August 2, 2023, in Jupiter, FL. Barbara lived life with purpose and you can plainly see it in the legacy of the people whose lives she touched.

Barbara was born Barbara Ann Mancini on November 20, 1953, in Lawrence, MA. She was inspired by her trailblazing mother, Virginia, who was “a woman ahead of her time” and rose through the ranks to manage a department of hundreds of people at the IRS offices in Massachusetts. Her father Luigi, a Lawrence Police Officer and WWII veteran, embodied a life of service, and importantly showed her how a husband should support his wife as she pursued a purposeful life. She would later use that filter when selecting her husband Robert Kelly, describing how much her father loved Rob.

That would come later though – for at the age of 9 she was blessed by the arrival of a baby brother, Louis (Kathy) Mancini. She embraced him at first as her “living doll” and throughout her life Barbara maintained an incredibly close relationship with Louis. As a child he did frustrate her by cleaning his plate of vegetables which Nana continued to refuse to do as recently as last month. Fortunately Virginia taught Barbara to make her famous fried dough (no vegetables in sight) which is regularly demanded by Barbara’s four grandchildren – Quinn Kelly, Jude Kelly, Liam Foster, and Izzy Foster.

Barbara was a stellar student graduating at the top of her class at St Mary High School. She enjoyed the nuns of St Mary's so much that she told her father she was considering joining a convent, leading to the one and only career intervention by her father and Barbara ultimately deciding to be the first in her family to attend a four-year university - the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy. Her steadfast Catholic faith was a hallmark of her life and the basis for the servant leadership she would eventually practice.

Nana would frequently tell the story to her granddaughter Quinn (and Izzy will read this soon) of how the MCP admissions officer asked her "why should he give a spot to her, when she would just get married and quit pharmacy." Of course she got in, graduated a semester early, and was once again at the top of her class. Surely she smiled, when later in life, she became the Assistant Dean of Students and Academic Affairs at the Palm Beach Atlantic Gregory School of Pharmacy and oversaw pharmacy school admissions herself.

In addition to finding her calling in healthcare at MCP she also found the love of her life, Rob Kelly. They married in college and in search of work moved to the then small town of Jupiter, FL, where they built the remainder of their lives. Perhaps attracted by their nuns, Barbara took her first position at St. Mary's hospital and like her mother she rose through the ranks to serve as the Director of Pharmacy during a 20 year career filled with coworkers who still love her to this day.

To the amazement of her two children Jason (Hillary) Kelly and Amanda (Matt) Foster who are now parents of young children – Barbara worked a demanding job, ran three marathons and a number of half-marathons, took night classes to acquire a master's degree, and yet never missed an important event in her children's lives. She was always there for them and was the solid base on which they built their lives and families. She was so proud of what her children accomplished, scholastically and in their careers (a son who attended MIT

and a daughter who became a pharmacist), but most importantly in the warm and caring families they were building.

In 2003, Barbara embarked on a new career as a founding administrator and faculty member of the newly formed Palm Beach Atlantic Gregory School of Pharmacy. In this role she was well-acquainted with almost all of the students and graduates of the school and many commented that she made them feel like they could accomplish anything. She was especially proud when her daughter Amanda graduated from the Gregory School in 2010. Notably, she developed a new service-learning elective course in partnership with Urban Youth Impact. Through this program she showed many students how to use the gifts they had - their education and opportunity - to help those in need. She encouraged them to live lives of purpose. In 2022 she made the decision to retire and was given the prestigious title of Associate Professor Emerita of Pharmacy Practice.

With only minor prodding, Barbara's children blessed her with four grandchildren (Quinn, Jude, Liam, and Izzy) with the first born in 2012. Overnight, Barb or Mom became "Nana" – and Nana was going to be deeply involved in her grandkids' lives. She had wisdom to share, lessons of her faith, and even started a summer camp – "Camp Blairsville" at the family vacation home in Georgia to welcome the grandchildren without the interference of their parents. She didn't just do this for her immediate family either. Nana was the glue for her extended family – knowing every birthday, major event, and all the connections in a sprawling Italian family – and taking photographs of it all.

In the summer of 2022 she traveled with all her children, grandchildren, her brother and his family, and close family and friends to undertake the Catholic pilgrimage of the Camino de Santiago in Spain. It had long been a dream for Nana and connected her to pilgrims as far back as the 10th century. Although

fighting cancer, she walked 100 kilometers during a record-breaking heat wave in Spain and completed the pilgrimage after seven days of walking. On the final day, she entered the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela surrounded by her children, grandchildren, family, and friends. Yet another lesson from Nana on living a life with purpose.

Barbara made family, friends, colleagues, students and everyone she met feel seen and significant when they spoke to her because she saw the best in everyone. She inspired so many of us to live a life with purpose.

We will miss you Nana.

In lieu of flowers, and in accordance with her wishes, we invite you to honor her memory and her unwavering faith and commitment to the betterment of others through charitable contributions to the Barbara Kelly Memorial Annual Scholarship. This scholarship will assist first-generation college students enrolled at the Lloyd L. Gregory School of Pharmacy.

To make a secure online donation, please visit <https://secure.qgiv.com/for/pgsf> and include "In Memory of Barbara Kelly" in the comments section. If you prefer to make a donation over the phone, we invite you to reach out to Lisa Aaron, the Gift Services Manager, at (561) 803-2007.

A Celebration of Life will be held at Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home in Jupiter FL, on Wednesday August 30th, from 4:00pm-7:00pm, with a Prayer Service being held from 6:00pm-6:30pm. The family extends an invitation to a reception at the family home, following services.

Additional services will also be held in Methuen, MA. For service details, please visit <https://www.cataudellafh.com/tributes/Barbara-Kelly>.



# Previous Events

## Visitation

AUG 30. 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM (ET)

Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home  
250 Center Street  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
(561) 744-2030  
<https://www.taylorandmodeenflorida.com>

## Prayer Service

AUG 30. 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM (ET)

Taylor & Modeen Funeral Home  
250 Center Street  
Jupiter, FL 33458  
(561) 744-2030  
<https://www.taylorandmodeenflorida.com>

# Tribute Wall



“ *Barbara Ann Kelly*

October 22, 2023 at 10:17 AM



“ *Professor Kelly was by far one of the nicest professors I ever had the privilege of having during my time at GSOP!! When you got to know her, she was really funny, and she always provided a listening ear. She made me (and other students) feel like we could accomplish absolutely anything. I will remember going on the Costa Rica Medical missions trip with her P1 year, and conducting student interviews with her. Thanks for being so happy for me when I was inducted into PLS Leadership Honor Society and helping me be the servant leader I am today! I will always remember the advice you gave me when I became a pharmacist. Your mentorship, kindness and your care will always be remembered. Thank you for making me the pharmacist I am today.*



Nina Petrillo - September 07, 2023 at 08:04 PM

AM

“ Barb was my office next door neighbor at PBA for 10 years and I can't imagine a better neighbor. The constant encouragement I listened to her encourage and cheer so many students on through the years. I appreciated her wonderful stories and insights from her long and successful career and the love she constantly expressed for her family. She was an encouragement to me in my own career and I am so very thankful for the many thoughtful conversations we had over the years. When it was announced my family was relocating to another state she immediately called to encourage me in this next stage of my journey. She never lost her zeal for pharmacy and she made sure to share it with others. I am so thankful to have known Barb and will miss her greatly. ~Amy Henneman

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**Amy** - August 29, 2023 at 09:49 AM

ML

“ I first met Mrs Kelly during my pharmacy clinicals at St. Mary's Medical Center while she was Director of Pharmacy. She was the first Director, I had in my profession until this day that was kind, courteous and treated everyone fairly. She will sorely be missed. Rest in Paradise  
Mary L

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**Mary Lall** - August 26, 2023 at 12:34 PM

“ I first met Barb when I was the Program Director at Urban Youth Impact and she really wanted the Pharmacy students to be well rounded and to know, love and impact our community and so reached out to me and asked if she could bring some Pharmacy students by to meet our students and eventually do a Healthy Lifestyle series for our students. Our students loved the Pharmacists in their white coats and the class Coaching for Health and Wellness continued for many years after I left the organization, impacting 100's of students and their families. She cared for her students and our community.

Fast forward more than a decade later and I am now the Senior Admissions Officer at the Gregory School of Pharmacy and Barb could not have been prouder of me- having lost my own mom in 2016, Barb's cheerleading, mentoring and encouragement meant the world to me. We served together on the Student Review Committee and she was such a bright light, praying with students(virtually) to calm their nerves before an Admissions interview and always an advocate for the students. On June 14th, Barb completed her last interview with a young woman named Cindy and then Barb shared her final thoughts on our students to be reviewed and her term on the committee ended- a professional until the last student was advocated for.

When I reached out to Cindy and told her of Professor Kelly's passing, she said "wow, I really felt like she cared about me and believed in me and will carry that hope with me as start Pharmacy School." I think that was Barb's greatest gift to all of us- believing in us, sometimes until we believed in ourselves. She was a tireless champion and advocate and we will miss her dearly. Pam Newsome and the whole Newsome family.

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Pam Newsome - August 16, 2023 at 12:25 PM

JF

“ Dean Barbara Kelly was one of the absolute best people I have been grateful to have crossed paths with in my life. Although I know I was just one of the many pharmacy students who knew her over the years, she left an impact on me that has forever changed both my career and personal life. She encouraged me in my goals, cheered me on in my aspirations, and inspired me to live a life of servant leadership.

*I still tell stories about the beautiful person Barb was to my colleagues, my employees, and the students I am now mentoring. She has left such a strong mark on so many people over the years, I find comfort in knowing generations to come will continue to be impacted by the love she gave to others.*

*I will miss her wise mentorship, leadership, and kindness. I will always cherish the memories we made together and the lessons she taught me. Her legacy will undoubtedly continue on through many.*

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**Jocelyn Freimuth** - August 10, 2023 at 09:47 PM

HC

“ Amanda, I only met your mom once but she made a wonderful impression on me as we both spoke of our connections to the pharmacy profession. My sincere condolences to you and your family on your loss. Please call on Andy and Rachel if there is anything you need. They treasure your friendship. I will continue prayers for you and your family during this difficult time.  
*Helena and Drew Cupit*

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**Helena Cupit** - August 09, 2023 at 06:37 PM

RA

“ *The Albury family in Nassau Bahamas would like to express our deepest sympathy to the Kelly family. She was an amazing person, full of compassion and set a Christian example for all. We first met professor Kelly on a visitation day at PBA and she was actually one of the first people we met at the university. She ate lunch with our family and made us all feel very comfortable about our transition to PBA and West Palm. She was always willing to lend a listening ear and was truly interested in every aspect of your well-being as a student. The memories of her will definitely live on in our hearts.*  
~Randall and Kristin Albury and Family, Nassau, Bahamas.

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**randall albury** - August 09, 2023 at 02:56 PM

TJ

“ *Gone from our lives but never from our hearts ☐ we will miss you cousin Barbara... words can not express how much you meant to so many of us. 🦋*



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**Tara Jones** - August 09, 2023 at 02:05 PM

LW

*I had the absolute joy and privilege of working with Barb for over a decade... in that time she served as an inspiration to me in many notable ways. Most notable was her unwavering love and commitment, whenever I needed an encouraging word or gentle tuneup... she was my go to person. Her impact outlived her earthly presence and she will be missed deeply.*

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**Lucas Whittaker** - August 10, 2023 at 02:49 PM

KW

“ My earliest memories with Barb started when she was the MCP girl from Lawrence and I was the MCP girl from Lowell. We were both marrying “Arlington” boys!! We had many card games at her and Kel’s 1st apartment before she moved to Florida 😞. Gerry and I then traveled to FL and met their “new” friends , Rosemary and Bobby and got to see the new home with the Sunrise/sunset mural on the kitchen wall. The memories continued with the addition of their children(Jason & Amanda), visits to FL, visits in MA, summer visits in Gloucester (with Louis and Kathy &family), visits to Blairsville (in her dream octagon home) , a week in Costa Rica (including all the Kelly clan), 2 beautiful weddings adding Hillary and Matt to the family, the additions of Quinn, Jude, Liam and Izzy, and many more joyous occasions!!! (All while she was still being the pharmacist extraordinaire!!) She was always grateful for her husband, children and their families, and her extended family for making all her dreams come true!!!

*Faith, Family, Friends..... the fabric of her Life!!*

*Much Love to all,*

*Kathy (and Gerry) Whitney*

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**Kathy Whitney** - August 09, 2023 at 01:04 PM

CL

“ To the family of Barbara Ann Kelly, my sincere prayers, and condolences. May She R.I.P.

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**Charlotte Latson** - August 09, 2023 at 11:35 AM

CS

“ Cathy Stern lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ann Kelly



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**Cathy Stern** - August 09, 2023 at 11:02 AM

LS

“ wonderful neighbor and friend.

Linda Smithe - August 09, 2023 at 10:53 AM

GB

“ My supervisor At St Mary's Hospital. Great Lady. May You Rest In Peace. 🙏❤️. Pharmacy Department

Glenda Barr - August 09, 2023 at 03:43 AM

GB

“ Glenda Barr lit a candle in memory of Barbara Ann Kelly



Glenda Barr - August 09, 2023 at 03:40 AM

KT

“ Bob, Amanda, and Jason sending you my deepest condolences. Your mom was the most beautiful, amazing, kind person that I have ever known. She was like a second mom to me. Your family will be in my prayers. Kim Turner

Kim Turner - August 08, 2023 at 05:11 PM

TD

“ Kell I am so sorry for your loss, my sympathy to you and yours. Tommy DeRosa

Tom DeRosa - August 08, 2023 at 02:26 PM

VP

“ Bob,  
. Barbara was a wonderful woman and together you make a great couple. We are. Wrapping you in Love at a time when words fall short.  
Love ya Vin & Margee

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**Vincent Phaneuf** - August 05, 2023 at 01:12 PM

LR

*Barbara and I reminisced about our big Italian Massachusetts families often while watching our daughters perform in gymnastics. We both felt as though we were always juggling our careers and motherhood but Barbara had a serenity about her that I admired and could never quite emulate. She could accomplish more than most mortals in any given day with her big smile and unending patience. May you rest in peace knowing that you not only influenced your family's life but you made all of us who knew you better people by your example.  
Much love to all the Kelly family, May you be comforted by the wonderful memories you have in your hearts and minds. Lois Gackenheimer Richards.*

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**Lois Gackenheimer Richards** - August 30, 2023 at 09:47 AM