



Kathleen Marie Kennedy Thomas

September 29, 1936 - May 26, 2025

Kathleen Marie Kennedy Thomas, 88, of Salisbury, NC passed away Monday, May 26, 2025, at Trinity Oaks Health and Rehab.

Mrs. Thomas was born on September 29, 1936, in Philadelphia, PA to the late Margaret Pahls Kenndy and Hugh Kennedy.

She served as a missionary with her husband Ned Thomas with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Quito, Ecuador for 14 years and in Waxhaw, NC at the JAARS Center until she retired in 2003. She had various jobs as a secretary, a typing teacher, an administrative assistant, and a receptionist. She was a member at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in China Grove, NC.

She is survived by her husband of 68 years Ned Welker Thomas, Sr., children: Lauren Thomas of Grants, NM, Ned Thomas Jr. (Deborah) of Eagle Pass, TX, Margaret Thorsen (Rev. Philip Thorsen) of Salisbury, NC and John Thomas (Allison Merrill) of Turtle Lake, WI, cousin Barabara Hannon, Philadelphia, PA, who she called her "sister" and sister-in-law Carolyn Weaver of Shamokin, PA; 6 grandchildren and 1 great grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held Sunday, June 8, 2025, at St Mark's Lutheran Church, China Grove at 3 pm. The receiving will be held directly after the service.

She will be interred in the U.S. National Cemetery Columbarium in Salisbury on June 9, 2025, at a private ceremony.

In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests donations be made to Wycliffe Bible Translators. Donations may be made by calling 888-773-1178 or going to .

Arrangements are entrusted to Summersett Funeral Home Inc & Crematory of Salisbury, NC. Online condolences may be made at www.summersettfuneralhome.com.

Cemetery Details

Salisbury National Cemetery

501 Statesville Blvd.
Salisbury, NC 28144

Previous Events

Memorial Service

JUN 8. 3:00 PM.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
China Grove, NC

Visitation Following Service

JUN 8.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church
China Grove, NC

Tribute Wall

FS

“ I'm so sorry to hear of Kathy's passing. My mom Carol Hubbs who worked in ICC at the JAARS Center and I (Faith) worked in Housing were just talking about people on the Center from years past and she mentioned to me to that Ned and Kathy moved up our way. We live in Conover, NC. So I googled their name and came across this. Please let Ned know we are praying for him and the family during this Christmas time.

Faith Stryk - December 24, 2025 at 03:15 PM

BH

“ It began when I took 2 or 3 of Kathy's aunts to visit her and the family in Coatesville. Eventually I spent several weekends there and when they moved to Quito we began writing long often detailed letters to each other. When they moved to North Carolina the letters turned into phone calls. I always looked forward to our conversations which could involve family events as well as world events. We covered the past and the present. We shared happy times and sad times. I felt special when she called me her "sister" since she was an only child. I miss those calls, but the memories I have will last forever.

Barbara Hannon - June 07, 2025 at 06:47 PM



Thanks so much, Aunt Barbara!

Lauren Thomas - July 08, 2025 at 03:27 PM

PC

“ May God hold you in the palm of his hand. My sincere condolences to the family. Lauren you are in my heart.

Patricia Cruz-Lee - May 30, 2025 at 01:46 PM

LT

Thank you so much, Pat.

Lauren Marie Thomas - May 30, 2025 at 05:32 PM

RD

We worked together at the Clinic at JAARS for quite a while and I loved knowing when she'd be there. She was so much fun and yet dedicated to the work of WBT. She was meticulous with her work and always went beyond what was her "job." How I loved her and am thankful that we walked the same paths. I look forward to the reunion in heaven! Ruth Durie

Ruth Durie - June 01, 2025 at 12:37 PM



Thanks so much, Aunt Ruth!

Lauren Thomas - July 08, 2025 at 03:07 PM