



Dorothy Ann Hirsch

July 26, 1950 - May 18, 2025

Dorothy Ann Hirsch

Dorothy Ann Hirsch died Sunday, May 18, 2025, at Kansas City Hospice. Ann was born on July 26, 1950, to John Edward Hirsch and Dorothy (Oberkrom) Hirsch in Mexico, Missouri, where John taught at Missouri Military Academy.

The family moved to Kansas City, Kansas, in 1955, where Ann attended Blessed Sacrament School, Northwest Junior High School and Wyandotte High School. At Wyandotte, she was editor of the Pantograph school newspaper, graduating in 1968. Ann attended the University of Kansas, one highlight being her participation in the February Sisters' occupation of the East Asian Studies building, resulting in the creation of the first campus childcare facility. Ann graduated from KU with a degree in classical archeology. She worked on archeological digs in the United States and in Europe (France, Lebanon, and in the country formerly known as Yugoslavia) as part of her graduate studies, until joining the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a cultural resource specialist. In 1983, Ann moved to Wichita and married Robert Coykendall. A daughter, Katherine (Katie) Coykendall was born in 1985. Ann spent her time in Wichita as an active parent volunteer at Katie's schools. She also loved collecting books and antiques and ran her own antiques booth. In 2009, Ann moved back to the Kansas City area, and adopted a cat named, appropriately, Booksie.

From an early age, reading was Ann's favorite pastime—especially mysteries and books about ancient Greece and Rome. Beginning in elementary school, Ann became a devoted fan of Shakespeare, and all things British. As an adult, she collected thousands of mysteries and archeological books, as well as pottery and art. She was an ardent supporter of women's rights, as well as environmental protection. If asked, she could always recommend a book she knew you would enjoy. In 2015, she finally traveled to Italy to walk in the Roman Forum, the Colosseum, and Palatine Hill, as well as Pompeii, Herculaneum, and the Greek ruins at Paestum.

Ann leaves her daughter, Katie Coykendall (Chris Holzman) of Wichita, KS; her brother John Edward Hirsch, Jr., of Overland Park, KS; her sister, Patricia Kay Hirsch of Newtown, CT; niece Alice Jane Kaufman (Donald Kraus) of Ardmore, PA; and nephew John Francis Kaufman (Emily), of Newtown, CT; cousins Louann Huffman (Charles), Stephen Oberkrom (Brigid); and Dr. David Oberkrom (Vicki), all of Kansas City, MO.

Tribute Wall

RF

“ Rachel and The Boyajian Family planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Dorothy Ann Hirsch.

Rachel and The Boyajian Family - March 12 at 08:50 PM

“ I am grateful to be able to say that Ann was a big part of my life. She was likely the smartest person that I will ever know. She absolutely was the best read person I will ever encounter. Whether it was a cozy mystery story, or the Durant Story of Civilization, she consumed the printed word with a passion. With an eye for art, and an interest in collecting, she created a rich home environment. She loved friends with the same passion. She held on to a small number of close friends for her lifetime.

That is not to say that she didn't have her dragons to face. My efforts at teaching her to drive a stick shift were largely in vane. Her interactions with technology did not usually end in her being victorious. Although she was an avid cook, and able to create healthy meals, often "healthy" outweighed "tasty" -- sometimes it was not even a contest.

Her greatest accomplishment was our daughter. Katie and Ann shared many of their best qualities. Whether it was their intellect, their willingness to try new adventures, their love of reading, or their fondness for animals. Ann shaped Katie into the beautiful person she is today.

I am a better person for having been fortunate enough to share much of my life with her. Together we confronted and overcame many of life's problems. I am so enriched by having had her as part of my life. Although our paths separated some years ago, I can truly say that I am a better man for having had her in my life. The part of me that she shaped and created, is a precious jewel that I will always treasure.

My sincere condolences to Katie, John, Pat, and the rest of the Hirsch crew, and her friends and loved ones.

Bob Coykendall

DZ

I remember Ann as a classmate at Blessed Sacrament. A shy but extremely knowledgeable student. I have vivid memories of coming to their house by Kensington Park. That was at a time when they were caring for their grandmother in the front room.

My condolences to John as he and my brother Ed were good friends.

*Dick Zasadny
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Dick Zasadny - May 24, 2025 at 08:27 AM