



## Kathleen Scroggins Ottinger

October 29, 1949 - May 10, 2015

Kathleen “Kate” Scroggins Ottinger, 65, of Kansas City, Mo., died May 10, 2015. She was born October 29, 1949, in rural Tennessee, to Janet “Nettie” Kennedy and Earl Scroggins. As an infant, Kate traveled home with her mother and siblings to Glasgow, Scotland, where Janet married Duncan McInnes and gave birth to Kate's sister, Janice. Kate, Earl, Lee and Janice were raised in the tenements of Glasgow by Duncan after the untimely death of their mother in 1967.

Kate was singled out in high school for her exceptional intelligence and gift for languages. She was the first person in her family to attend university, graduating in 1971 from the University of Aberdeen (U.K.), where she met and later married American Gregg Ottinger and moved to the United States.

Although the marriage did not last, their friendship did. Kate attended graduate school at the University of Kansas, where she earned master's degrees in Russian language and Russian literature (she also spoke French, Polish and Serbo-Croatian). While a student, Kate served as “house mother” for Sellards Scholarship Hall, where she fed and counseled 50 young women. She was also a member of the field hockey team.

Kate later met Herbert Hoover Dotson, Jr., and, in 1984, gave birth to their son, Russell Duncan Dotson. She was a devoted mother and always took great pride in Russell's achievements – most notably his beautiful wife and family. Kate truly loved and adored her grandchildren, Phoenix and Maya. To them she was known fondly as K.K.

Kate recently retired from the University of Kansas Medical Center. There she filled an important role in helping doctors from around the world come to Kansas City for advanced training in high-risk pregnancy and fetal care. Her dedication and strong work ethic helped Dr. Carl Weiner and his team to improve the lives of the unborn and provide hope to families.

Kate always enjoyed immersing herself in other cultures and traveled to many countries including Mexico, Spain, Italy, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Portugal, Tanzania and Thailand. She loved spending time with family and friends. She was a spirited aficionado of good music, good food and drink, and good times. She loved to read and spend time in the garden. Kate's humor, wit, intelligence, warmth and friendship will be missed by all who knew her.

Kathleen is preceded in death by her parents and brothers, Lee and Earl Jr. She is survived by her son Russell; daughter-in-law, CaSaundra; two grandchildren, Phoenix (5) and Maya (2), all of Grandview, her sister Janice Hamilton of Glasgow, and her nieces Pamela and Natalie of Glasgow. She also leaves behind many friends and loved ones all over the world.

There will be a private celebration of life in honor of Kathleen Friday May 22nd, 2015. The family plans to honor Kate's wishes and scatter her ashes on the beautiful Isle of Skye in Scotland . In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial donation in Kate's name to the KU Gynecological and Obstetrical Foundation, 3901 Rainbow, MS 2028, Kansas City, KS 66160.

# Tribute Wall

JH

“ *Janice H. purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Kathleen Scroggins Ottinger.*



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**Janice H.** - May 19, 2015 at 01:43 PM



“ *Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Kathleen Scroggins Ottinger.*



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May 18, 2015 at 07:16 PM

AN

“ *To Russell and family, you are in our prayers. We will all miss Kate.*

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**Ang** - May 18, 2015 at 01:24 PM

JH

“ A wonderful loving sister and a special aunt who will be missed dearly. Kathleen had a zest for life and enjoyed her many travels and most recently to Scotland, Thailand and Europe. Kathleen enjoyed meeting up with her family and friends in Scotland and loved the Scottish Highlands. I will miss our chats on the phone and Skype and having a laugh, I used to say to her she got the brains and I got the looks!! We enjoyed catching up on the latest news about our growing families and grandchildren who Kathleen was very proud of and enjoyed spending time with. She will be lovingly remembered and memories shared this side of the world. All our love and thoughts are with Russell, CaSaundra, Phoenix and Maya at this sad time. Janice, Pamela, Natalie, Ross, Allan, Baby Daniel and Emily x.

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**Janice Hamilton** - May 18, 2015 at 01:02 PM

LH

“ As a former coworker and dear friend, I will miss Kate very much. We had great conversations about her travels and family at our Saturday breakfast outings. She was a very wise woman and didn't mince words if you asked her advice about something, but did this in a caring way. She was fun and we had some great laughs. My heartfelt condolences and prayers to her family. Lorraine Helm

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**Lorraine Helm** - May 15, 2015 at 11:29 PM