



Mrs. Cathleen A. Chay of Huntley

March 7, 1948 - April 15, 2026

Cathleen Chay, 78, of Huntley, Illinois, passed away on April 15, 2026, after facing her illness with strength, grace, and determination.

She lived a long, happy, and very full life. Cathleen and her husband, Richard, shared 61 years together, including 56 years of marriage—years filled with love, partnership, and a deep connection that many admired and some described as nothing short of extraordinary.

Those who knew Cathleen will remember her thoughtfulness, kindness, and genuine compassion for others. She had a quiet way of making people feel seen and cared for. She will also be remembered for her sense of style, her artistic talents, her love of gourmet cooking, and the beautiful gardens she created—each one a reflection of her creativity and care.

Cathleen pursued her passions with intention. She fulfilled a lifelong dream by becoming a certified yoga instructor, going on to teach many classes and even pioneering the first pool yoga class in the Sun City community. She found joy not only in practicing yoga, but in sharing it with others.

At age 39, she earned her bachelor's degree in English Literature from the University of Toledo, graduating magna cum laude.

Perhaps her proudest accomplishment was becoming an Amazon.com published author of three books—Life with Intention, The Heart of Teaching Yoga, and Reflections. She didn't write for recognition, but to bring joy to others—a goal that perfectly reflected who she was.

Cathleen is survived by her husband, Richard; her sisters, Cindy Facchini (Rudy) and Chris Cunningham (John); her brother, Dan Cappelto (Lisa); her cousin Carole Wilson (Gaines) as well as other cousins and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents, Daniel and Lucille Cappelto, and her nephew, Johnny Cunningham.

A private interment service was held for immediate family and close friends.

Cathleen leaves behind a legacy of warmth, creativity, and generosity. Those who were fortunate enough to know her carry forward many wonderful memories.

She will be deeply missed.

The family has created this Life Tributes page to make it easy to share your memories, photos, and videos. For those of you that would have attended services and would like to express your condolences please click on the "Share A Memory" link above and you can leave a message. If you wish to send a Sympathy Card, please feel free to send it to Morizzo Funeral Home, 2550 Hassell Road, Hoffman Estates, Illinois, 60169 c/o the Family; we will gladly forward it on to the family.

For further information please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to Morizzo Funeral Home, Cremation Services and Cemetery Memorials, at 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169. Morizzo

Memorials and Monuments (<https://www.morizzofuneralhome.com/monuments-and-headstones/memorials-monuments-and-headstones>).

Cemetery Details

Morizzo Family Funeral Home, Cremation Services and Cemetery Memorials

2550 Hassell Road

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Hoffman Estates, IL 60169

ross@morizzofuneralhome.com

<http://MorizzoFuneralHome.com>

Tribute Wall

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“ I’m Richard’s cousin from Canada. My late husband, Frank, and I didn’t know Cathy very well, but on one of their visits to Canada we had them over for supper. Shortly after talking to them, I asked Cathy what type of work she had done. She said she was an English Literature teacher and that really interested us. Frank asked her numerous questions about her career and we also found we had the same interest in the type of music she and Richard enjoyed. Cathy also said no one had ever asked her about her background before. She usually just listened to everyone else.

It was such a nice evening with great conversations. Richard later told us that Cathy so enjoyed their visit that she didn’t stop talking all the way back to Chicago.

I am thankful to have gotten to know Cathy. My deepest condolences to Richard, and I know he will miss her dearly but will have many happy memories.

Eileen

Eileen Sim - April 27 at 12:55 AM

GT

“ I loved Cathleen as soon as I met her. We became fast friends. Cathleen taught me to love yoga. She was an extraordinary yoga instructor. Three times a week at 8 am we were practicing yoga and loved every minute of it. Cathleen even continued yoga instruction during Covid via Zoom. I loved the little inspirational sayings that Cathleen printed out and left on our mats before class. I have saved them all. What a wonderful person and friend she was. I miss her terribly.

Gail Tepper - April 26 at 09:03 PM