



June Niemiec "Nena" Kennedy

August 29, 1930 - February 24, 2021

June Niemiec Kennedy, lovingly known as "Nena," passed away on February 24, 2021. She was born in Enfield, Connecticut to parents Francis and Genevieve Niemiec on August 29, 1930. June is remembered by many for her motherly compassion. She loved cooking, gardening, and reading mystery novels. She also enjoyed traveling, which she often did because of her late husband's truck driving career.

June was preceded in death by her husband of almost 70 years, Dorne Lionel Kennedy and daughter Carol Mary Reed Kennedy. She is survived by her son, Thomas Kennedy (Glenda) of Farmington, MO; grandchildren Robyn Kerce (Paul) of Tallahassee, FL, Kelli Reed of Lakeland, FL, and Tommi Jo Kennedy (Becky Whennen) of Ironton, MO; great-grandchildren Katie Beaumont of Washington, DC, Megan Edge, Nathan Kerce, Mary Kerce, Ryan Kerce, and Seth Kerce, all of Tallahassee, FL, as well as a host of other family members who will miss her dearly.

Breanna Green of Bevis Funeral Home is assisting the family with their arrangements. (850-385-2193 or www.bevisfh.com)

Tribute Wall

KB

“ I have so many great memories with Nena, it's hard to recount them all in one post. I will say that Nena always had everyone's best interest at heart. Here are some of my best memories:

-When she was going to bed, she would always say, "alright, I'm shuffling off to buffalo". It always made Megan and I laugh because we had never heard of it, so she would always say it when she left to go to bed

-One time, when I was very young, (I think they lived in CT or Cape Coral) we had TV dinners for dinner. I thought the carrots tasted like lipstick (I guess I didn't like cooked carrots), so I told Nena and she looked around and said "OK don't tell Papa" and threw them away for me and Megan so we wouldn't have to eat them (Papa would have made us eat every bite, lipstick and all).

-Nena and Papa took Megan and I to Miami on vacation, and we had to go to bed while the sun was still out, LOL.

-She had these two geese on her front porch in Florida that would get dressed up for differed occasions (Easter, Christmas, Valentine's Day, etc.)

-When I was in Tallahassee for Christmas 2020 (the last time I saw her), I was so excited to tell her that I was on level 250 on my solitaire game on my iPhone. Nena likes to play solitaire with cards, she said it was a Polish game. When I told her that I was on level 250 on my phone, she replied with "don't you have anything better to do?"

-We always loved to play board games with her, specifically Bingo or Scattegories. Nena kicked our butts at games but we always let her play because she enjoyed it, and so did we.

-Mine and Megan's favorite dish of Nena's is chicken and dumplings. When I visited for Christmas 2020, that was my one

request. She made them for me and she apologized for them not being up to par, but they were amazing and I am so glad that I got them one last time.

I miss you Nena and I am glad that you are with Papa, Smokey, Bandit, and Grandma Carol. Please tell them all that I said hi and I love them <3

Last thing. Nena never got her driver's license. She always wanted to view life from the passenger's seat. I have always had this in my mind and wished I could live my life this way. Unfortunately I have had to get my drivers license but I always try to be in the passenger seat when possible, to view life as Nena did.

Katie Beaumont - March 02, 2021 at 09:33 PM

ME

Nena drained pulp from my orange juice after Papa tried making me drink it even though I didn't like it. She was the realest LOL

Megan - March 02, 2021 at 09:43 PM

ME

*though **

Megan - March 03, 2021 at 11:17 AM

RK

OMG, Katie, I was going to write the exact same thing as you about her saying, "I'm shuffling off to Buffalo!" Ha ha. In fact, I'm pretty sure she said it the night before she died. That's why it's so fresh in my mind.

Robyn Kerce - March 04, 2021 at 06:40 PM

ME

“ One of my favorite memories with Nena was when we had a family game day & were playing egg toss at their house (I think in Tampa but may have been Ocala). She wasn't my partner but I somehow managed to throw my egg right at her and it splattered all over her shorts! (side note: as a kid I would sit on her lap & whatever pants she was wearing was the “color” of her lap—blue pants = “Nena, you have a blue lap today!”). She was always so loving and fun to be around, and honestly one of the funniest people I knew.

She liked to do things that let you know she cared about you—there would always be a cantaloupe cut up for me to have after school and sometimes when I couldn't sleep, she would lay with me & turn on something “boring” like the news to help me go to bed. When Katie & I would come up to visit, her & Robyn would always make sure the kitchen was stocked with our favorite things. She always did little acts of kindness to show her love.

My first memories of drinking coffee are with her and Papa; I'd usually still be up from the night before by the time they got up in the morning, so I'd sit at the table with them, print out my own mini crossword puzzle from the computer, & drink some coffee with them while they did their own puzzles from the paper. I'd give anything to be sitting at the breakfast table with both of them right now, with our coffee cups on the mug warmers that I had/still have only ever seen at their house.

(I have so many great memories but these are just a few that keep coming to mind.)

I love you, Nena!! I hope you're somewhere eating chicken and dumplings, reading a good book while you hold Papa's hand. Say hi to him, Grandma Carol, & Bandit for us <3 Thank you for everything you did for me & the rest of the family. We love you so much!!

Megan - March 02, 2021 at 12:26 PM

RK

Believe me, Meg, those coffee warmers were hard to find. But, I did not know those things. Thank you.

Robyn Kerce - March 02, 2021 at 12:55 PM



There are so many wonderful memories I have. I can honestly say we are one of the lucky few with Grandparents like them.

Kelli Reed - March 02, 2021 at 01:24 PM

SK

Kelli, Robyn,

Your memories are heartwarming. As you say, your Nena, our Aunt June, was so good to us. Always something nice to say, something kind to do for others. One of my favorite things she did was to have goodies on a glass-domed cake plate on the counter. I've had one just like hers for years because I wanted to be like Aunt June! She and Uncle Dorne were such an enormous help to me when my mom had a stroke. They loved her and were so good to her. God bless all of you in your loss.

Love, Susie

Susanne King - March 02, 2021 at 01:34 PM

TK

One of the best days I ever had with my Mom was when I had gone down to Arkansas for a week and her and I went down to Hot Springs. We had a ball just talking on our drive through the mountains and then getting down there and walking by all the bath houses. We then went down and had lunch at Zaxby's and then played miniature golf, did some shopping at Sam's, then stopped at a place called Hungry Greek for a couple of Gyros for when we got back home and if I recall she had never had one and she was not sure about it until we go home and started eating and she really loved it. That was a really great week as it seemed we had not got to do that in quite a while. Mom I will really miss you and know that I loved you very much.

Thomas & Glenda Kennedy - March 02, 2021 at 06:30 PM



She truly lived an incredible life. Always did for those around her as best as she could.

Kelli Reed - March 02, 2021 at 11:14 PM