



## Frances L. Keller

September 24, 2015

Frances L. Keller, 71, of Lancaster, PA, died at Lancaster General Hospital on Saturday, September 19, 2015. Born in Lancaster, she was the daughter of the late Paul J. and Elizabeth Lynch Keller.

She was a graduate of J.P. McCaskey High School and received her BA in Education from Penn State University and later graduated with a BS in Business Administration from Millersville University. She also attended the University of Connecticut, Master of Fine Arts Program in the Department of Dramatic Arts with a concentration in lighting design.

Fran was a member of the English Department at J.P. McCaskey, retiring in 2006. During part of her tenure she developed the concept of the Turn Around Theater which gave students an opportunity to direct one act plays. During her time at Millersville University she was employed by WGAL.

Her passion in theater arts was lighting design. She volunteered for many years as lighting designer and technician for Actor's Company of Pennsylvania and OperaLancaster productions. She volunteered for theater lighting at the Ware Center in its early years. She enjoyed summers at the beach. Frances was a member of Sacred Heart of Jesus Church of Lancaster.

She is survived by a niece Pamela Keller Hendricks wife of George L. Schmitt,

Jr. of Lancaster, PA and a nephew Brent Keller Weatherby of Fort Collins, CO. Fran is also survived by two great nieces and four great nephews. In addition to her parents she was preceded in death by a sister, Bette Keller Hendricks Schnippel, two brothers, Thomas L. and Paul J. Keller, Jr. and her nephew John T. Hendricks, III.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend Frances' Mass of Christian Burial on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, 558 W. Walnut Street, Lancaster, PA with The Reverend Michael Messner officiating. Interment will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, 626 Baily Road, Yeadon, PA.

# Tribute Wall



“ *Frances L. Keller*

October 22, 2023 at 11:34 PM



“ *Love your work! I don't have much up in terms of design work, but I'm loinokg to build up my design portfolio over the upcoming months. An invite would be greatly appreciated Thanks!Suhaila*

**Yash** - December 21, 2015 at 11:51 PM



“ *Dear friends and Family of Fran,  
I found it a great experience working with Fran in the Actors  
Company of PA and OperaLancaster Productions. She did a great  
deal for her community. I offer my sympathy.  
My condolences,  
David Zimmerman*

**David Zimmerman** - October 04, 2015 at 09:00 PM



“ *Fran was a talented friend. We first met at McCaskey and then  
again at MUP when we both taking night courses. Since we both  
stayed in Lancaster, our paths would frequently cross. It was always  
fun to share "stories" from the past and simply laugh together! I am  
grateful for those times and treasure the memories.*

**Lucinda Hampton** - September 26, 2015 at 08:54 PM

RB

“ Deeply saddened to hear of the passing of our friend and classmate Frannie. Our deepest sympathy to her family and friends. Judy (Rainey) and Ron Barone

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**Ronald and Judith R Barone** - September 26, 2015 at 05:30 PM

MF

“ Fran was one of my first students at JPM HS. She was a member of the Dolphin Club and while an excellent swimmer she was engaged in all phases of the annual Synchronized Swimming show. I remember her crawling on the gym floor to paint the scenery for the show "...and the Greatest of These." Even as a high school senior her theatre talents and interests were very evident. We will remember her for her many contributions to JPM and the Lancaster community.

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**Marian Franck** - September 26, 2015 at 11:00 AM

SL

“ Fran has been our good neighbor ever since we bought our house 18 years ago. We were very sad to hear of her passing. Since it will be a Jewish holiday we will not be able to attend her funereal. We send condolences to her family. Abba & Shoshana Leeder We can hardly believe that we won't be seeing her passing by with Zella.

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**shoshana leeder** - September 25, 2015 at 01:26 PM

KK

“ Dear Pam and family,

*I enjoyed working with Fran at JP McCaskey High School and attending opera performances with her. I also was privileged to go to the shore with her on two occasions and go yo know your mother through those adventures. They are both missed here, but I am sure they have been reunited. Fran will take her talents with her and help to light up the clouds so we know she is still with us in spirit.*

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**Kathleen Kuzmiak** - September 25, 2015 at 12:36 PM

DL

“ As a child, I knew Fran as a lively and creative lighting designer who was one of my mother's favorite collaborators in staging opera. My mother, Dorothy Rose Smith, depended on her for years of wonderful productions by the then Lancaster Opera Workshop and, more recently, Lancaster Opera Company. I recall Fran making her opinions known in her emphatic way during final rehearsals at the Fulton and getting terrific results. I was in awe of her!

*As an adult who returned to Lancaster and did some directing and some work in the booth for that organization, I found that she was still wonderfully feisty and capable, still chock full of constructive and informed opinions. It was great to reconnect with her and reminisce about my mother with her.*

*I will remember her every time I sit in an audience at the Fulton.*

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**Debra (Smith) Lenssen** - September 25, 2015 at 12:31 PM

HO

“ Fran visited me at the Ware Center when I was the Director there. She offered to volunteer to help us "bring up the quality of lighting on the productions." I jumped at the chance. Not only did Fran design many of our performance lighting plots, but she also mentored MU students on how to create their own and run the lighting board. I will remember her as a dynamic force, creative, uncompromising and a real gift to the Ware Center in its early stages. May the lights in Heaven be more spectacular than any lighting plot you saw here on Earth. I'll miss you, Fran. Harv

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Harvey Owen - September 25, 2015 at 10:37 AM