

Kathie Markby-Hannah – April 16, 2026



Kathleen "Kathie" Markby Hannah, beloved daughter, sister, wife, step-mother, aunt, and friend, passed away on April 16, 2026. Born July 9, 1941 in Chicago, Illinois to Mary Catherine O'Neill Markby and John Richard Markby, Kathie was the oldest of five children and carried that role with strength, warmth, and a deep love for her family throughout her life. From an early age, Kathie's remarkable talent and love for ice skating were evident to all who knew her. She attended Planert's Ice Skating School in Glen Ellyn, IL and spent countless hours practicing at the outdoor ice rink at the YMCA in Elmhurst, IL, determined to perfect her craft.

After graduating from Immaculate Conception High School in 1959, her dream became her profession when she joined the renowned **Ice Capades** where she performed professionally across the country for five exciting years.

Her adventurous spirit and love of entertaining led her into a comedic skating act with a close colleague, a partnership that took them around the world. Together, they performed in Germany and South Africa, bringing joy and laughter to audiences everywhere. Eventually, Kathie settled in Mill Valley, California where she built a beautiful life rooted in love, compassion, and community. There, she met and soon married the love of her life, Bill Hannah, and together they shared many happy years filled with laughter, friendship, and devotion.

Kathie dedicated much of her professional life to the Marine Mammal Center, where she was deeply passionate about the care and well-being of animals. Her kindness and commitment touched both the creatures she helped protect and the many people fortunate enough to work alongside her. Outside of work, Kathie was an avid bowler who cherished time spent with her girlfriends at the lanes and enjoyed competing in tournaments. She loved the camaraderie, competition, and countless memories made with dear friends over the years. Above all else, Kathie treasured her family.

Kathie was preceded in death by her beloved husband, William Hannah, her sister Maureen Swiecicki (Paul), and her stepson, Billy Hannah. She is survived by her siblings, Bonnie Hanson (John), Susan Slocum, and James Markby, step-daughter, Tracy Hannah, and many cherished nieces and nephews who will forever remember her warmth, humor, and adventurous spirit.

Kathleen Hannah lived a remarkable life filled with compassion, adventure, talent, and joy. She will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her, but her warmth, humor, and vibrant spirit will live on in the hearts of all who knew her.

[Obituary information for Kathleen "Kathie" Markby-Hannah](#)