



## Diane Kessler

May 2, 1930 - September 15, 2020

Diane Kessler passed to heaven peacefully Sept. 15, 2020, in Shawnee, Kansas of natural causes. Diane lived a life full of love, and full of giving love to others, especially as a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Born May 2, 1930, in Kansas City, Missouri to Etta Adelman Vigder and Max Vigder, Diane was a lifelong resident of the Kansas City area. She attended and graduated from Paseo High School, and while there was a member of a sorority where she made many lifelong friends. In 1950, she married her soul mate Robert “Bob” Kessler, and it was a marriage made in heaven, where they are now two souls together.

Diane was a gifted child prodigy in classical piano. After she and Bob started their family, there was always music in the home, with Bob singing and all three sons becoming accomplished instrumentalists. Many sing-a-long’s happened around Diane’s cherished piano and during road trips in the car. Diane was always a hard worker like Etta, and as soon as her boys were in school, she worked part-time with Bob at the family's neighborhood grocery store greeting customers, then at Helzberg’s Jewelers at Metcalf South, and finally at The Sun Newspapers – where everyone in the classified department loved her so and called her “Mom.”

Diane always made fast friends with everyone she met, always exuding her sweetness and love, her radiant smile and her joyful sense of humor to everyone. She had the rare gift of striking up conversations with total strangers and making them feel like they'd known her for years. Diane was renowned for her vast, intricate knowledge of the family tree and relatives' birthdays. She cherished old movies and could name all the Hollywood and singers. In her later years, Molly, her border collie mix pup adopted from Wayside Waifs, gave her faithful companionship and joy for almost 20 years, especially after Bob had passed. Diane kept up the Jewish traditions with her family, always celebrating the holidays with great joy and love. She was a member of the B’nai B’rith Sisterhood and Congregation Ohev Shalom.

Diane is survived by her sons Stanton Kessler of Mission, Kansas, and companion

Kumiko DeRigne; Gary Kessler and wife Lourdes Eguez Kessler of Overland Park, Kansas; and Martin Kessler of Mission, Kansas; grandchildren Jesse Reed-Schall of Overland Park, Kansas; Dr. Carolina Hernandez of Tampa, Florida; and Andrea Hernandez of Overland Park, Kansas; and seven beautiful great-grandchildren; A niece and a nephew.

Private family services will be held. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations to Wayside Waifs ([waysidewaifs.org](http://waysidewaifs.org)).

# Cemetery

---

**Mt. Carmel Cemetery**  
5529 Ditzler Avenue  
Raytown, MO,

# Events

---

**SEP 18** **Zoom Graveside Service** 12:30PM

---

Please call funeral home for Zoom information.  
MO, US

# Comments

---



“ Stan, Gary and Marty  
Sorry to hear of your loss. A beautiful person with a beautiful smile who always was warm welcoming and caring to others. Bruce Shapiro

**Bruce Shapiro** - October 12, 2020 at 03:45 AM

---



“ Condolences Stan, Gary and Martin. One of the nicest moms I have ever had the pleasure to know!

Russel Mann

**Russel Mann** - September 21, 2020 at 05:06 PM

---



“ Stan, Karin and I are sorry for your loss.

**Mark Edelman & Karin Lichterman** - September 20, 2020 at 11:00 PM

---



“ I was so sorry to hear of beautiful Diane's passing. As Stan remembers Etta, obm, and my Grandmother, Bessie Wolf, obm, were good friends. My mother Helen Wolf Mendelsohn,obm,, even babysat your Mother upon occasion. It was my pleasure to work with your lovely Mom at the Sun too. So now you know how very sorry I am. Please accept my deep sympathy for you all at this time and May her memory be for wonderful blessings!

**Judy Lanes** - September 19, 2020 at 08:34 PM

---



“ I was privileged to work with Diane at Sun Publications for several years. When I thought of her today, I could see her smiling face and hear her cheerful greetings in my mind. May God wrap his arms around all of her family in the days, weeks, and months to come and bless them.

Judy Southard

Judy Southard - September 17, 2020 at 11:26 PM

---



“ Gary, sorry to hear about your Mom. She is with your Dad enjoying Gods eternal love. Bob

Bob Denzel - September 17, 2020 at 08:23 PM

---



“ So many wonderful memories. Your mother was the kindest sweetest woman I knew. Always made me feel special and loved. I feel truly blessed to have been a part of the Kessler family. She will be missed by many . God bless you with strength and love.

Judy Bornstein - September 17, 2020 at 04:01 PM

---



“ To Stan, Gary, and Martin.... So sorry to hear of your mom's passing. She was a warm and welcoming person... your home was always open to us. We gathered at your home in small and large groups and she always let the Lantzen practice there giving us encouragement along the way. Later in life it was always fun to run into her and your dad as they were walking laps at Metcalf South. Although it has been a while since we visited last, we had a chance to catch up and talk about those earlier years. She will be missed by so many because she had a positive impact on so many. May her memory be for a blessing. Joel and Bev Levine

Joel Levine - September 16, 2020 at 05:41 PM

---



“ I worked 10 years with Diane at Sun Publicatons. She was such a delight, cheerful, twinkle in her eye, full of fun and wisdom. She and her Bobby were adorable and always very kind to me. RIP Diane as you join your special guy! God bless. Barb Kelly DeMoss

**Barb Kelly DeMoss** - September 16, 2020 at 05:08 PM