



Mrs. Penelope Perkins Holder

January 29, 1936 - August 28, 2024

Penelope (Penny) Perkins Holder of Roswell was born on January 29, 1936, and transitioned on August 28, 2024, at Wellstar Tranquility Hospice, holding the hand of her husband, Maxwell as she passed.

Penelope was British but moved to Ohio when her father transferred to the U.S. for the Royal Air Force. She graduated from Fairborn, Ohio, high school in 1954. She turned down a drama scholarship and married her first husband, Sherwood Kelley, with whom she had four children: Nicola (Craig) Hyser, Kimberly Calandriello, Michael Kelley and Elizabeth (LeAnn) Puckett-Kelley. She also has one stepson, Walker (Kathy) Holder; six grandchildren: Leigh, Katherine, Amber, George, Christina and Bridget; and eight great grandchildren; Kaelin, Zachary, Cameron, Lennox, Alexandra, Mason, Will and Hudson.

She is survived by her husband, Maxwell Holder, her sister, Virginia, and her family of

Oakville, Ontario, Canada, brother Richard and his family of Redruth, Cornwall, United

Kingdom, her children, stepson, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

She settled in Atlanta and married Maxwell in 1992, having met him through their

membership in a recovery Fellowship. She was an accomplished watercolor artist and

had exhibitions and many commissions. Penelope retired from Kimberly Clark

Corporation – Healthcare as a Marketing Administrative Assistant.

Most of all, she was a loyal, kind and giving woman and will be missed by those who loved her.

A celebration of Penny's life will be held in late October when family can gather.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to North Fulton Community Charities.

Tribute Wall

“ I will miss my mother terribly the rest of my life, but I am grateful she's no longer suffering and living in the despair and darkness that came to dominate her last few years.

For most of my life, my mother was a bright star that burned hot until she burned out. I don't mean her "passing." Throughout her long life -- over and over -- this is what she did. She often said (to me) that she wasn't as strong as me. But that's not true. Her strength was in her beauty, intelligence, charisma, talent, loyalty to her family and close friends, and in her loving, generous ways ... regardless of how she would be hurt by those -- me included -- who didn't understand her when she'd go "underground" to recharge or lash out when she was hurting because she wanted others to feel what she was feeling.

Living far away from her children and grandchildren was painful enough. Then losing her eyesight and not being able to express herself through her beautiful watercolors or read her favorite books added to her anxiety and depression. I could hurt for her for those reasons but could also be frustrated by her for those reasons, because I wanted her to "let it go." (She called me her "mainstay," but I have to say it was a bad habit of mine not to sit too long with my own or anyone else's pain because I didn't want to become anxious or depressed. As I've grown older, I've sometimes envied those who've allowed themselves to feel deeper.)

Before the past few years, when my mother was younger and before her poor vision and general health made it especially hard for her "to recharge," I said or did something hurtful because I wanted her to change. I didn't know better. But, she knew and forgave me and loved me over and over again, and our tightly-woven mother-daughter dance would resume. I imagine it was like this with many others she held close.

It's taken me too long to realize -- and to say outloud -- that I am very grateful she was my mother. There was a time I wished she

was different. But, I am who I am because she persisted in being herself. I am who I am because of who she was. I like myself. I haven't always felt that way, and I like to believe she'd be proud of me for saying that. Still, I can also see her raise an eyebrow and say something -- in her dramatic British accent -- to challenge my "bold" statement.

God ... I will miss her more than I can say.

Mommy, I am still learning how to live fully from you. I promise to sit with my grief and not look for ways to not feel my pain. And, I promise to joyfully toast you often ... my Royal Mah-Mah! (No surprise here ... She imagined herself to be on par with A-list actress Dame Maggie Smith ;)

Mommy, you will forever more be my bright, guiding star. I love you, always and forever, Nicola Joan.

Nicola K. Hyser - September 07, 2024 at 03:12 PM

DD

“ She was commanding captivating and charming in a not to be messed with kind of way .
As a freelance designer,
I first met Penny as the gatekeeper to my clients in KC Healthcare Marketing.

As guardian of her galaxy of meteorrific marketing stars, she presented an unforgettable persona. Stationed at the helm, beautiful and beguiling behind her desk, she ran tight security with style and aplomb.

I had the great fortune to rediscover Penny and come to know her marvelous mate, Max, as neighbors in Roswell.

She surely would have been a grand dam of the theatre had she pursued that drama scholarship but nonetheless her personal, performing and visual artistic talents will be remembered by all whose lives have touched hers.

*With love and fond remembrances,
Denise*

Denise Donahue - September 07, 2024 at 06:44 AM

CM

“ Penny and I met in London in 1971. We hit it off immediately. She had lived in the US while her dad was an Air Vice Marshal here, and she wanted to return. I got a job in Florida and we arranged for her to follow. We had a lot of fun together in our 30's. Penny was unquestionably the most beautiful female I had ever met, and she had artistic talent to match. I missed her when she moved to Georgia but our friendship remained all these years. Pete, my girls and I send love and condolences to Max and Penny's whole family. She was so proud of you all! Chris Meier, Stuart, FL

Chris Meier - September 03, 2024 at 08:11 AM

PA

“ Patricia lit a candle in memory of Mrs. Penelope Perkins Holder



patricia - August 30, 2024 at 03:25 PM

NO

“ Aunt Penny was indeed an amazing artist. Whenever I was in Atlanta I would stop by and just marvel at all of the drawings and visit with Max and Penny. Love to all of her family and to Max who walked beside Penny everyday.

Natalie

Natalie O - August 30, 2024 at 03:13 PM

BR

“ We will miss Granny Penny deeply. Especially the amazing paintings and drawings. She had a beautiful soul

Bridget - August 30, 2024 at 02:29 PM