



Donna Kuga

June 14, 1956 - March 8, 2017

It is with profound sadness that we announce the peaceful passing of Donna Kuga. Donna was born on June 14, 1956 and died on March 8, 2017. She was a lifelong resident of Beaver County.

Donna is survived by her mother, Lubi Kuga; two sisters, Linda Kuga Pikulin and April Kuga; and, one brother, Curtis Kuga. She is preceded in death by her father, Peter Kuga.

Donna was surrounded by her loving family and dearest friend, Angie Latess when she passed away.

Donna retired in 2016 from Penn State University after enjoying a 35 year career at Penn State Beaver Campus. She began her academic career earning her Bachelor's Degree from Penn State In May 1978. Four years later, she received her Master's Degree from Slippery Rock and continued her education at the University of Pittsburgh receiving her Doctorate in Education in August 1990.

Donna taught as an instructor for nine years at Penn State Beaver before her appointment as an Assistant Professor in August 1990. She assumed the role of Acting Director of Academic Affairs in 1997. In 1998, she was appointed Director of Academic Affairs, a highlight of her career. In 2014, she assumed

the position as Interim Chancellor of Penn State Beaver prior to her retirement. Donna was a committed and passionate educator. A student once wrote "Dr. Kuga was one of the best instructors I have ever had in the Penn State System.

Donna was loved and respected by so many people. Family and friends are welcome to attend a Celebration of Donna's Life which will be held on Sunday, April 2, from 1-4pm at the Seven Oaks Country Club, 132 Lisbon Road, Beaver.

A private cremation has been arranged by Anthony Mastrofrancesco Funeral Home Inc. 2026 McMinn St. Aliquippa, PA 15001. Donna's ashes will be laid to rest at a later date.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Barry Lembersky and the Hillman Cancer Center and UPMC Shadyside for taking such wonderful and compassionate care of Donna. Flowers are gratefully declined and donations can be directed to the American Breast Cancer Society.

Tribute Wall

CK

“ Donna, another year has gone by. You have been greatly missed. I still often cry when thinking of you and mom. So many things changed since you’ve left us. I love you sis. Always think about you and will never forget. ❤️

Curtis Kuga - March 09, 2025 at 01:56 PM

AK

“ Worse day of my life and I miss you every day. Love you always ❤️



April Kuga - March 08, 2025 at 07:47 AM

AK

“ Merry Christmas Donna. Missing you always. I love you 💕💕

April Kuga - December 25, 2024 at 02:33 AM

AK

“ Mom passed away today and she will be joining you, daddy, and Toots. Another angel will be looking out for us. I’m so sad and can’t stop crying. I miss you and love you ❤️

April Kuga - September 12, 2024 at 09:27 PM

LI

“ Dearest Donna....thinking of you today on your birthday. Never stop missing you.

Linda



LindaKuga - June 14, 2024 at 07:18 PM

AK

“ Love you ❤️



April Kuga - March 08, 2024 at 08:08 PM

LP

“ Dearest Donna...thinking of you today. We love you and miss you immensely.

Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2024 at 12:24 PM

LP

“ Donna....Missing you ever day.

Linda



Linda Kuga Pikulin - January 28, 2024 at 02:15 AM

AK

Thinking of you today. I miss you so so much. Love you always.

April Kuga - March 03, 2024 at 11:49 AM

AK

Thinking of you today. Miss you so much and love you always.

April Kuga - March 08, 2024 at 08:08 PM

AK

“ *Happy Heavenly Birthday Donna. Thinking of you all day today. I love and miss you.*



April Kuga - June 14, 2023 at 05:32 PM

AK

“ *My dear sister. 6 years feels like a lifetime that you have been gone. I miss you and always think of you. Love you with all of my heart. ❤️*

April Kuga - March 08, 2023 at 02:52 PM

LP

“ *Donna...I love you and I always will. Will never forget you. You are in my heart forever....Linda*

Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2023 at 12:38 PM

LP

“ *Donna...I love you and miss you always.*



Linda Kuga Pikulin - November 15, 2022 at 08:24 PM

AK

“ Happy Heavenly Birthday Donna. Miss you more than you can imagine. Thoughts and Love are always with you.💕💕

April Kuga - June 14, 2022 at 09:56 AM

LP

“ Linda Kuga Pikulin lit a candle in memory of Donna Kuga



Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2022 at 07:54 AM

LP

“ Dearest Donna...

I love you. I miss seeing you, I miss your strength, I miss your laughter, I miss hearing your voice over the phone, I miss our time together. I miss everything about you...because I will never forget our lives together as children, as friends, and as sisters. My heart still fills empty when I think about your passing. You would be so proud of Curtis and April. They have created wonderful lives for themselves and continue to care for Mom. In church on Sunday, I lit a candle for you praying that the Lord whispers in your ear...that your family continues to love you, miss you and think about you always.

Linda

Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2022 at 07:54 AM

AK

“ *April Kuga lit a candle in memory of Donna Kuga*



April Kuga - March 08, 2022 at 05:54 AM

AK

“ *Yesterday I got my appendix out and before they put me out two tears came down my eyes. I thought about you, all the treatments and pain that you endured, you were always so strong and I knew I would be okay. I knew you were watching over me.*

I'm good and everything is okay. Today is 5 years. It seems so much longer. Your always in my thoughts. Your always missed. Your always loved.

*Miss you and love you always.
April*

April Kuga - March 08, 2022 at 05:48 AM

LP

“ Dear Donna...

Today is New Year's Day and I wish you were here. Spending time with mom during New Year's has never been the same without you. For many reasons, I am happy to see 2021 behind us. It was a difficult year for Mom. She has fallen at least four times and has required 24 hour care. No one could ever take care of Mom the way you did. Having to spend my own time here caring for her has given me such an appreciation for all that you did. There are so many things I wish that I could share with you...tell you, confide in you as I always did in the past. I love you, Donna, with all of my heart. Today, my heart aches wishing that you were here with me...with us.

Love you and remembering you...always.

Linda

Linda Kuga Pikulin - January 01, 2022 at 01:48 PM

AK

“ Today is your birthday, you would have been 65. We still and will always celebrate your life. Miss you always. Love you.

Happy Birthday Donna in heaven!!

April Kuga - June 14, 2021 at 12:05 PM

AK

“ Grief never ends...but it changes.
*It's a passage, not a place to stay.
Grief is not a sign of weakness, nor a lack of faith.
It is the price of love.*

Donna. You are missed daily and I love you so much.

April Kuga - March 08, 2021 at 08:22 AM

LP

“ Donna...may you be lying in the loving arms of our Lord today on the 4th anniversary of your passing. We love you, miss you and cherish you all the days of our lives.

Linda



Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2021 at 07:39 AM

LP

“ Donna...The sadness in my heart is overwhelmed with grief this week as we approach the day you passed away. So many memories to be grateful for...too few to enjoy without you.

I love you...remembering you always...Linda



Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 01, 2021 at 08:29 PM

LP

“ Donna...I love you.

Linda

Linda Kuga Pikulin - February 27, 2021 at 10:04 PM

AK

“ Watching your video today. I miss you so much!!!!
I love you.

April Kuga - January 25, 2021 at 05:09 PM

LP

“ *The emptiness of Christmas fills my heart as I long to see you, speak to you, and tell you that you were the very best of us.*

Linda Kuga Pikulin - December 24, 2020 at 10:24 PM

AK

“ *Tears still flow. Heart still aches. Thinking of you every day. Missing you constantly. And loving you always.
God I miss you.*

Love you

April Kuga - December 23, 2020 at 12:11 AM

AN

“ *Still...*

Annette - October 05, 2020 at 11:19 PM

AK

“ *Thinking of you. When I was home last, mom and I put flowers by everyone grave but saved the best ones for you, daddy, and Toots. Love you... 🥰❤️*



April Kuga - September 10, 2020 at 09:29 AM

CK

“ *Donna, I'm always thinking about you and miss you so much. Love you, Curtis*

Curtis Kuga - May 21, 2020 at 11:48 AM

AK

“ Donna. It's been 3 years today and it feels so much longer. I love and will always love you. I talked to mom today and I did not mention your passing because I know that mom is feeling your loss just like the rest of us. In fact, she cries every day for you. You will always be in our thoughts and prayers. I love you and miss you dearly.

April Kuga - March 09, 2020 at 12:03 AM

AK

“ Thinking about you today and everyday. Miss you always - ❤️

April Kuga - February 21, 2020 at 05:43 PM

LP

“ My love for you has never faded...not for a moment. I miss you everyday. I shall always miss you. Today...tomorrow...always.



Linda Kuga Pikulin - February 01, 2020 at 09:03 PM

AK

“ The moment that you left me, my heart split in two. One side filled with memories the other side died with you. Remembering you is easy, I do it everyday but missing you is heartache that never goes away. I hold you in my heart tightly and there you will remain. You see life has gone without you, but will never be the same. I love you and miss you.

April Kuga - April 05, 2019 at 09:58 PM

LP

“ To my dearest sister...I went to church today and lit a candle to commemorate the second year of your passing. It never seems to get any easier. I pray that God has heard my prayers and held you in his loving arms today surrounded by Daddy and Tete. Last week, a cardinal swopped in front of my car when I was parking and sat in a tree right in front of me. Tears began rolling down my face. I know that God sent you to me...letting me know that you are watching over us all. I love you, Donna. Look down on us today...the candles are burning brightly. Love always, your sister, Linda.



Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2019 at 03:57 PM

AK

“ April Kuga lit a candle in memory of Donna Kuga



April Kuga - March 08, 2019 at 06:09 AM

AK

Today is the 2nd year of your passing. It seems like you have been gone forever. I don't understand why your not in my dreams or I don't see cardinals anymore. I miss you more, I think about you more, so please let me know that you are thinking of me. Sometimes you just need a sign from your sister. I love you Donna.

April Kuga - March 08, 2019 at 06:18 AM

LP

“ My dearest Donna...

I miss you so much. As the holidays approach, the only thing that I can think of is you...missing you. Life is so much different without you. We all looked forward to visiting you at your house during the holidays. I can still smell the fireplace burning with logs and all of the Christmas scents that filled your house during Christmas. I love you Donna...always.

Linda

Linda Kuga Pikulin - November 12, 2018 at 04:11 PM



AK

“ Donna.

Today another angel will be joining you and Daddy in heaven looking down at us. Toots passed away- she was the best aunt that a niece could ever have in their life. She was a second mom to all of us. She always said don't cry when she passes but I can't. She said to be happy for her as she only wanted peace. I will miss her and I loved her dearly.

Miss you and think about you all the time. Love you.

April Kuga - July 28, 2018 at 09:42 PM



LP

“ Donna...

I miss you. Mom and I drove by your house yesterday. I saw mom turn her head looking towards your front door as though you were going to greet us. We never stop thinking about you...will love you always.

Linda

Linda Kuga Pikulin - July 09, 2018 at 05:46 PM



AK

“ Donna.

I went to the cemetery today to visit with you and daddy. Linda placed a wreath honoring your birthday and Acknowledging Fathers Day - it is beautiful. I sat there thinking of the both of you and how much I miss you. You are in my thoughts and prayers always. All my love.

April Kuga - June 17, 2018 at 08:03 PM

LP

“ *Linda Kuga Pikulin lit a candle in memory of Donna Kuga*



Linda Kuga Pikulin - May 01, 2018 at 02:21 PM

LP

“ Donna....

Spring is finally here. I think of you and miss you every day. The tears never stop falling.

Linda Kuga Pikulin - May 01, 2018 at 02:20 PM

LP

“ *Linda Kuga Pikulin lit a candle in memory of Donna Kuga*



linda kuga pikulin - April 14, 2018 at 09:43 PM

LP

“ Donna...

I miss you. I just watched your Celebration of Life video again. I have watched it a thousand times. I just wish that I could hear your voice, touch your hand, hold you close to me. I love you.

linda kuga pikulin - April 14, 2018 at 09:42 PM

LP

“ *Linda Kuga Pikulin lit a candle in memory of Donna Kuga*



Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2018 at 07:17 PM

LP

“ Donna...

Today, Mom and I went to the cemetery to lay a wreath on your grave at 10:50 am...the exact time that God called you home. My heart is still filled with a deep sadness. I don't think I will ever recover from your passing. Curt, April and I are doing the best we can to take care of Mom...but, no one could replace you. Mom suffers in silence missing you every single day hoping that you would walk through that door. I miss you Don. I drive by your house every time I come back to Beaver...wishing I could drive up to the house and see you in the backyard. That will never happen again. But I have comfort knowing that someday we will see each other again.

Linda Kuga Pikulin - March 08, 2018 at 07:06 PM

AK

“ Donna.

A year ago today was the worst day of my life...losing you. People say it will get easier or time will heal, but that is not the case for me. I think we are all learning how to deal with your passing. For me, my heart still aches, emptiness still exists, and sadness is reality. You are constant in my thoughts, prayers, and at times my dreams which are beautiful. When I see cardinal, I know it is you looking down at me - watching out and being my protector like you have always been. I miss you my sister, my love. April

April Kuga - March 08, 2018 at 09:16 AM

CK

“ Donna, I think about you everyday and miss you so much. Are lives are not the same without you. Moving on without you sis is very hard, sometimes I feel so angry you are not here. I wish we had more time together and will never forget you. I love you, your brother Curtis.

Cutis Kuga - January 17, 2018 at 09:47 PM

AP

“ Donna I miss and think about you every day. You are always in my thoughts. I love you.

April - May 19, 2017 at 06:03 PM

AK

The sadness that I feel is overwhelming. Losing you has broken my heart, I miss you so much. You were in my dream one night and you were so at peace-it was beautiful. Thinking of you always. I miss you and love....April

April Kuga - September 01, 2017 at 09:24 PM

AK

You are in my thoughts daily and a constant in my heart. I love you my sister and friend. I miss you so much and talk about you with mommy all the time. You will never be forgotten. Love you....April

April Kuga - November 01, 2017 at 09:39 PM

KA

“ Dear Linda, I am so very sorry to hear about your family's loss. I didn't know Donna, but from your stories, know she was deeply loved. Reading about her on these pages paints a picture of an incredible woman that will be missed by those that knew her. My deepest condolences.



Love, Katarina

katarina - March 23, 2017 at 06:15 PM



“ I am so sorry for your loss April, Curtis Lubi , Linda and Angie...

I will never forget her LAUGH!!!! I can literally hear it now despite yrs having flown by (just like I still remember your phone # Lubi!!) And making her laugh was a joy!!!

Still makes me smile to remember those Steeler games , us kids on the floor in front of her, where at times she was more Entertaining than the game was!!!!

Intelligent, strong, integrity, honesty. She was at times a teacher to me: about life / character/ choices when I was at an age requiring same (not that I always listened!) and she taught by example in her own life. I always admired and respected her and am so proud to see all she accomplished and gave to this world..her contribution still remains with every student s' life she touched.

She also lives in the hearts/person of each of you and your incredible character....

Our sympathy and condolences to you all!!!!

Love, Lisa(Paul, Brittany and Dylan)

Lisa Cruthers - March 18, 2017 at 05:46 PM



“ I was a softball player at Penn State Beaver and got to know Donna during that time. She was a wonderful person. Donna wrote reference letters for me and got me an assistant softball job at the Beav. It was an honor to know her. My family sends our sympathy and prayers.

Sean & Tracy Strickland

These photos are from a rafting trip we all took together to Ohiopyle.



Tracy Strickland - March 12, 2017 at 06:03 PM

DD

“ Dear Lubi and Linda, I am so very, very sorry to hear of the loss of your beautiful daughter an sister. My prayers are with you, Diane Dornenburg

Diane Dornenburg - March 10, 2017 at 03:31 PM

CC

Dear Linda, I was so sorry to hear of the passing of your sister. You have my deepest sympathy. I will keep you and your family in my prayers. Cheryl Potts Cassidy.

Cheryl Cassidy - March 11, 2017 at 02:36 AM

LK

Lubi, Linda, and family, so sorry to hear of Donna's passing. Although we have lost touch over the years, we still care and news of this sort spurs memories and emotions. Hugs, prayers and peace to everyone.
Leslie White Kostka

Leslie Kostka - March 14, 2017 at 11:48 AM

BF

Donna has just fallen into the arms of the one who has always loved her. God is holding her gently in His arms and she is safe. Love and prayers. Betty Lou

Betty Lou Fondriest - March 29, 2017 at 05:41 AM