



## Katie Dao Schatz

June 4, 1990 - November 23, 2024

Katie Dao Schatz of Conshohocken passed away on November 23rd, 2024. Katie was born a conjoined twin in Thailand, on June 4, 1990. At the age of 3, she and her twin, Julie, were flown to the United States to be separated, marking the beginning of an extraordinary journey that touched countless lives.

Everyone who lived in Conshohocken in the 90s will remember seeing Katie zoom up and down Fayette Street on a single rollerblade and her iconic pink crutches. Anything you can do, she could do better on crutches. While those crutches might have caught your eye at first, it was her indomitable personality that left an enduring mark. Katie inspired everyone she met by simply existing but she also had a sense of humor and attitude that stuck with you. Katie didn't just navigate the world with ease—she conquered it with humor, grit, and a flair all her own. Her sharp wit and fiery comebacks were legendary, often disarming anyone who dared underestimate her. And if words weren't enough, a “playful” nudge with her crutch made sure her point was crystal clear.

Katie had a passion for video games that was as fierce as her personality. Her competitive streak often filled the air with the sound of her shouting at her gaming console—a sound that could sometimes be heard from a block away. She loved sharing her gaming adventures with her siblings and friends,

creating bonds over every victory and challenge. Katie was also a talented storyteller, crafting captivating short stories that mirrored her creativity. She loved sitcoms and had a quote from *The Office* for almost every situation. Katie was a devoted dog and cat mom. Before her loving canine sidekick, Angel, passed away in 2022, Katie spent much of her free time walking and playing with Angel. No matter where Katie was or what she was doing, Angel was never far from her thoughts. Katie found joy and fulfillment in her work at National Appraisal Service, Inc., where she not only excelled in her role but also cherished the friendships she formed with her coworkers.

Katie is survived by her twin sister, Julie Schatz, her parents, Rudolph Schatz and Ann Marie Wolf-Schatz, her beloved cat, Chloe, and more brothers, sisters, cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends than a character count could let us include. The love and admiration she inspired were immeasurable, as was the impact she had on those fortunate enough to know her or hear her story. Katie's life was a reminder that challenges are just opportunities for greatness, and her legacy will continue to inspire.

In lieu of flowers, we know Katie would appreciate it if you made a donation to an animal rescue of your choice.

# Tribute Wall

BH

“Katie, I want to express just how incredibly proud I am of you and all that you have achieved in your life. It has always been clear how strong, loving, and remarkable you are. I still remember the day you arrived from Thailand; it was a life-changing moment. The instant I saw you, I fell in love. The days that followed were such a beautiful journey, with every day showing us your personality and your wonderful sense of humor. No matter where our adventures took us, you always had something funny to say. I was so proud of you during the months and months of doctor appointments and hospital stays. You faced every challenge with a strength that uplifted everyone around you. I can still picture the sheer joy on your face the day Barney came to visit you in the hospital. You lit the room, exclaiming, “Look, there’s Barney!” I could hear your voice all the way down the hallway. Your incredible achievements have always inspired me, from conquering riding a bike and mastering crutches to excelling in school and swimming. You never let obstacles define you; you approached each challenge with an uplifting spirit. Katie, I am deeply grateful for all the texts and phone calls we shared. Your thoughtful messages during holidays and birthdays brought such joy and warmth to my life; I looked forward to each and every one. I will treasure them forever. I will miss you, especially the extraordinary person you are and the joy you brought into our lives. Your kindness, laughter, and resilience will forever be held in my heart and cherished. I will love you forever.

*Barbara Headley*

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**Barbara Headley** - December 05, 2024 at 05:24 PM

MF

“ Much love, your Iowa family purchased the Full of Love Bouquet for the family of Katie Dao Schatz.



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Much love, your Iowa family - December 04, 2024 at 11:29 AM

KJ

“ What can I say about Katie that hasn't already been said. Katie was truly unique one of the best of us. Always looking out for people when she could and making people feel welcomed. One of the things I loved most about her was her hearty laugh because you could always tell she was having a really good time when did it.



I met Katie playing video games through a friend and I truly did not think we were going to be super close friends. If anything I thought we going to be those occasional friends that only hang out when the other friend invites them. To my surprise we became pretty close playing a verity of different games together.

Of course eventually through misunderstandings we grew apart and it honestly had been years since we talked but one day I happened to catch her streaming and I stopped in to say hi. Let me tell you the delight I felt was incredible when she was excited to hear from me, and our relationship may not have been exactly the same as before but we still had that bond we shared.

Honestly I am really going to miss Katie but I know if she was here she would tell me to pull myself together and do my best.

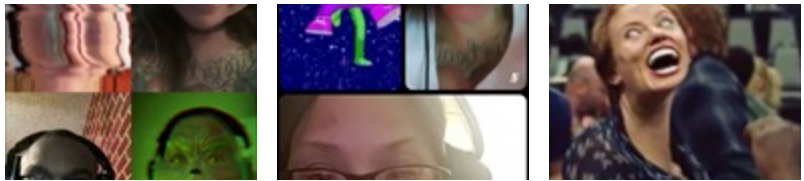
My friend will be missed but will never be forgotten.

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Kenneth Carroll Jr - December 03, 2024 at 09:01 AM

NG

“ This news has absolutely ripped a hole in my heart. My condolences to the sweet family, I can't even imagine what you're going through. Katie was my best friend, her and I used to game for hours, all through the night, it was non stop laughter. I have so many clips of us doing silly things and I plan on making a video out of them. Katie will always hold a special place in my heart forever. I love you Katie and I'm going to miss you so much, gaming will definitely not be the same without hearing your laugh. I'm so grateful to have had you in my life. This one picture was Katie and I's favorite picture to send to people online that were mean to us. I'll never forget it. Sleep sweet Katie ❤️🕊️



nicole galvan - December 02, 2024 at 09:49 PM

JG

“ There are a lot of gaps in Katie’s life that she never shared with me, but everything she did share came from a place of trust and love. She taught me that a true friendship can look so many different ways and that it’s always okay to communicate your feelings with your friends and work things out, even if sometimes it feels like an argument. She taught me that love is everlasting, and through that love for someone you can change and grow and become someone you never knew you could be. We even faux-complained about how our cats were always on top of us when we were gaming, even though we loved it. She introduced me to new movies and made routines with me when I needed help with my mental health.

Meg and I made the decision to go down to PA to visit Katie and made the trip in June. It was a major highlight for all of us, getting to finally see each other and interact in person. Katie was... she was Katie. She was funny and generous and kind and silly and amazingly good at Jenga. She always had to be doing a hundred things at once, which sometimes drove me nuts. She spent a ton of time and effort to make sure our trip was enjoyable. We went to some of her favorite places. We went to Dave and Busters, we went Bowling at the place she used to have birthday parties, we ordered pizza and noodles from places she recommended. We had frozen ice and played Gang Beasts and Jackbox. I’ll never forget the smile she had on her face when she got arist-slothle (her sloth plushie, from Dave and Busters), or the look of pure shock and joy on her face when we surprised her with her sister Julie during the trip. We were lucky enough to get to share this time and space with Katie in ways maybe not many people may have. In everything Katie did for her friends there was love and kindness. [LTL] [SEP] [SEP]

I know life was never easy for Katie. Even so, anyone who knew her knows that she was warm. She had a warmth to her that the world tried to snuff out so many times, and failed. When she was diagnosed, she came into the group chat her, Riss, Meg and I share and asked us all to promise that if we felt something was off with our bodies to get it checked. She asked us to never wait, even when

*she knew she was dying she was thinking of us and our futures. I know that even at the end of her life, she was warm. That she thought of her sister and her cat, Chloe. and gave every ounce of strength she had to that love.*

*Katie may be gone now, but the impact she had on our lives stays. I know that if there is an afterlife, that I will see her there. I know that she likely made everyone she loves promise to take care of themselves and to live their lives fully. I know that she wanted only the best for all of us and I hope to make her proud within my lifetime. I hope I can find her strength, that fierceness she always had, within myself and manifest it when I need it most. I hope that I can stand up for myself half as well as she always stood up for me. I hope I can live life with the sincerity and vigour she would have wanted for me; for all of us. [SEPISEP]*

*I'm grateful to Katie for so many things. There will never be words to express all of my feelings towards her and the way she came into my life right when I needed her to, or the courage and confidence she has given me within a world so foreign. She shared her life with me. I feel like she was sent to me, and me to her, sent to each other by whatever grace there is in the world.*

*I will miss her and I look forward to seeing her again after I have lived a life worthy of telling her about.*



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**Jayde Girard** - December 02, 2024 at 07:36 PM

ME

“ Matt Elwell purchased the Full Of Love Bouquet for the family of Katie Dao Schatz.



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**Matt Elwell** - December 02, 2024 at 07:30 PM

PM

“ I miss you so much, Katie. You were so much more than just a colleague; you were a dear friend. Your incredible spirit and kind heart truly made a difference in my life. I often think back to the times I affectionately called you “Miss Little Bossy” because of your natural leadership skills at work. I’m grateful for all the moments we shared, and I will always hold those memories close to my heart. Your positive impact on my life will never be forgotten. Until we can meet again, rest in peace, my dear friend. You will be missed dearly.



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**Princy Mathew** - December 02, 2024 at 07:06 PM

MD

I had the privilege of teaching Katie in middle school. I believe I learned more from her than she did from me💕. Her unbelievable spirit in never giving up was inspirational to all who knew her. Rest in heaven, sweet one!

Love, Mrs. De

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**Mary Ann DeHoratius** - December 03, 2024 at 04:51 AM