



Pamela Alexander Blackwood

March 14, 1948 - September 14, 2025

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Pam Alexander Blackwood, age 77, passed away in her apartment in Squirrel Hill on September 14, 2025, following a period of chronic illness. Pam is survived by her sisters Nedra Faulkner of Conroe, Texas and KC Joachim of Norfolk, Virginia, niece Sarah Joachim, nephew Zach Joachim, and many dear friends who will miss her enormously.

Her unique combination of sensitive, wide-ranging intelligence and curiosity, as well as a joy-filled, loving heart, drew many friends to her. All who knew her were touched deeply by her exuberant spirit.

Pam was born and raised in New Orleans, LA. She lived in Germany and traveled extensively in Europe with her ex-husband Mike Blackwood in her 20s, then moved to Pittsburgh in her early 30s to pursue a masters degree at the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work.

She loved teaching. As a popular adjunct faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh School of Social Work for many years, she was a role model for many budding social workers. A skilled and dedicated therapist and trainer, she worked most recently at the Pittsburgh Pastoral Institute until her

retirement. Over the years, she also saw clients at Catholic Charities, Allegheny East MH/MR, and St Francis Community Mental Health Center.

Pam was a long-time member of the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh where she facilitated adult religious education classes, mentored teens, created women's retreats, and was the co-founder/leader of the Spirit Seekers covenant group for 25 years.

A passionate reader, she was a member of a local book club for 22 years. She enjoyed making jewelry and gifted her friends many colorful necklaces and pairs of earrings. Pam also loved animals, had many dogs and cats over the years, and left behind her beloved cat, Cami.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at 3 pm at the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh in Shadyside.

A livestream for the service can be found at: <https://youtube.com/live/DLS-zthRK9I?feature=share>

Donations in her name can be made to the First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh, Humane Animal Rescue of Pittsburgh, or Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

Arrangements were entrusted to D'Alessandro Funeral Home and Crematory, Ltd.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

NOV 1. 3:00 PM (ET)

First Unitarian Church of Pittsburgh
605 Morewood Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213

Tribute Wall

MS

“ I had know Pam for years through the First Unitarian Church and her group, The Spirit seekers . . . her smile lit up the world!

Mary Schinhofen

Mary Schinhofen - November 01, 2025 at 03:36 PM

CI

“ I spent a weekend with Pam for Karen's birthday and she was JOY!!! I wish all of you who loved and will miss her dearly, comfort and peace.

Cindy - November 01, 2025 at 03:00 PM

JD

“ I met Pam in late 1994 at the Unitarian church. We had our first serious conversation when we ran into each other by chance at a coffee shop on Murray Avenue. It was about half a block from where Rick Wells lived at that time.

We started to talk, and it turned out that we had both majored in philosophy in undergraduate school. That got us going on a range of philosophical topics that we continued to talk about for as long as I lived in Pittsburgh – about 15 years.

One of those topics was whether there was an afterlife of some sort. Pam argued that there was, and I argued that there wasn't. We were still arguing about that after I moved to Philadelphia in 2010. About 10 years ago she sent me a copy of *Proof of Heaven* by Eben Alexander. Alexander is a neurosurgeon who had a near-death experience and attempted to prove that his experience was only possible if there is a life after this one. Pam was adamant about it. I can only say today that I hope she was right, and that she is still with us in some form. She was a terrific person who cared about everyone. I loved her.

Jim DeHullu

Jim DeHullu - November 01, 2025 at 09:50 AM

SM

“ Thank you for being a friend for many years. Love you much. ❤️

Steven Marlborough

Steven Marlborough - October 30, 2025 at 08:11 PM

JU

“ For my husband, Patrick & me, our deepest sympathy goes out to her family and friends. I so appreciated her kind spirit.



Judy - October 25, 2025 at 09:27 PM



“ Sweetest Sunrise Bouquet was purchased for the family of Pamela Alexander Blackwood.



October 23, 2025 at 05:41 PM

KC

“ KC, Sara, Zach, Steve, Cami planted a [Memorial Tree](/store/Product.aspx?ProductId=4518) in honor of Pamela Alexander Blackwood.



KC, Sara, Zach, Steve, Cami - October 23, 2025 at 05:41 PM



“ Pam and I taught together. I loved her kind and exuberant spirit. Her memory is a blessing

Mary Rauktis - October 20, 2025 at 09:51 AM

DS

“ Deepest sympathy to ALL who loved Pam. To know her was to Love her.... I met her at St Francis CMH....I learned from Pam. I'm grateful to have known her  

Diana L. Shaban - October 17, 2025 at 09:35 PM