



Mrs. Toni Hooks Kasko

July 22, 1943 - June 18, 2025

Toni Roerberthia Hooks Kasko came into this world on July 22, 1943 and left this world on June 18, 2025. She was preceded in death by her parents and stepfather, her husband John, her four siblings and four siblings in law, many aunts and uncles, nieces and nephews, and her beloved daughter Catherine. She is survived by her daughter Anna and grandchildren Aidan and Grey, many nieces and nephews, and cousins and friends.

Toni was born at home in Onancock, VA. Her family had recently moved from Alabama and her mother carried her there, in utero, by train, along with her four older siblings. They then moved to Chincoteague, VA. At 14 months old, she contracted polio. Despite living on an island with four siblings in school, she was the only one. She was initially treated in Warm Springs, GA, the same place as president Roosevelt. After that, most of her care was at Shriners Hospital in Philadelphia, where she developed her love of city life. It would be amiss to not mention the strength of her mother who sought out and arranged her exceptional care.

In her early 20s, she moved to Baltimore and began a career as a computer programmer, which was very rare for a woman at that time. In 1970, she married John Kasko, whom she had met at work. She not only sewed her own wedding dress, but also the dresses of her 5 bridesmaids.

In 1972 she welcomed her daughter Catherine and in 1976 her daughter Anna. She paused her career and stayed home to care for her daughters and also many other children, who remain part of our family to this day. She went back to work in 1998 and had a successful career at Maryland Casualty, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and the State of Maryland. She retired at the young age of 70.

She was ecstatic to have grandchildren Aidan in 2005 and Grey in 2009 and doted on them ridiculously. She took them to her favorite places including the Aquarium, Science Center, the zoo, the Walters Art Museum, and the Hippodrome Theater. She loved art and especially theater.

She lived an amazing life. She never let her disability define her. She was not phased by labels. She was fond of saying she was called crippled, then disabled, then differently abled, but none of these changed what she could or could not do. She was bold, and fiery, and sassy. She had an opinion about everything and was quick to let you know it. She fought not only for herself, but for everyone that was seen as “less than”.

If you would care to send a remembrance, please donate to Center Stage or Everyman Theater, or any local arts organization you support. A memorial service will be held in the future to celebrate her life.

Tribute Wall

JA

“ I am saddened to learn of her passing today. She was my supervisor and manager at the State of Maryland, and she took care of me and helped me immensely. I still remember the times when I was on call—if I received a call in the middle of the night and didn't know how to solve an error, I would call her, and she would get up and patiently guide me through it.

We often chatted in the office, and she shared many stories about life, especially about her two daughters and grandchildren. I always enjoyed listening to her, and I also shared with her my own struggles in life and in raising my children. She was like a grandmother to me, and I felt very blessed to have her as my supervisor and manager.

May God receive her soul and embrace her in His kingdom.

James - September 24, 2025 at 03:19 PM

SD

RIP Toni. So many people's lives have been touched by your advice on, caring for, genuine interest in and knowledge of how ourselves and guidance based on how you approached challenges in your own life. Thank you for the many talks we had while on the clock. It balanced out all of the hours of technical mumbo jumbo we had to read through or discuss as DBAs for the State Comptroller. I'll never forget the time we went to lunch together and you got side swiped by some inebriated lady while in a crosswalk. I imagine you're running through fields of wildflowers now that your no longer confined as you had been due to polio. Love eternally to you beautiful Toni. You will be missed by so many.

Steve DiMario - October 07, 2025 at 11:04 PM

AN

“ 1 file added to the album Toni



Anna - July 23, 2025 at 12:54 PM

AK

“ 5 files added to the album Toni



Anna Kasko - July 23, 2025 at 12:47 PM

OH

“ *She was awesome. She was so patient with us as kids, and full of common sense advice when we became adults. She proceeded willfully through her life, positively inspiring others. She was fierce in life and love!* ❤️

owen hooks - July 09, 2025 at 12:53 PM

KJ

“ I have had most pleasurable moments with Granny ❤️. She took part in caring for my daughter and welcomed me with love as well. I carry a piece of her with me around my neck and will never take it off. Mrs. Kasko (Granny) had plenty of spank and was vibrant, kind and loving. I will miss giving her hugs.

Kia Jordan - July 08, 2025 at 08:13 PM

RW

“ I'll always remember Toni reminding me to come to church. Whenever she did, I'd show up. Who could say no to Toni? She cared for others fiercely and authentically. I was lucky to know her and will always remember her.

Rachel Wilkinson - July 07, 2025 at 11:26 AM

AK

“ An obituary and memorial service details will be posted soon.

- Anna

Anna Kasko - June 24, 2025 at 11:58 AM

RO

My awesome ,funny friend rest in eternal peace I miss you very much ❤️.

rose - July 16, 2025 at 12:29 PM