



Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden

July 9, 2014 - October 27, 2014

Katherine Walton McFadden passed away Monday, October 27th, 2014. She was born July 9th, 1973 in Atlanta, GA to Louisa Walton McFadden and Isaac Joseph McFadden II. She graduated from Lakeside High School and earned a Bachelor of Science degree from The University of California Santa Cruz. Kate earned her Masters of Science from Texas A&M University and her Doctorate of Ecology and Environmental Biology from Columbia University where she was the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship. She was currently an Assistant Professor in Environmental Sciences at Clemson University and Assistant Unit Leader with the USGS SC Cooperative Fish & Wildlife Research Unit.

Kate's distinguished career spanned six continents where she conducted ecological field research contributing to the conservation of endangered species and ecosystems. Kate's passion and commitment to teaching went well beyond the classrooms she led. Whether it was her dedication to mentoring field researchers in Rwanda or tutoring students at Columbia University and Clemson University, Kate served as a role model to the next generation of environmental scientists.

Kate was a loving wife, an adoring aunt, a caring friend, and contributed selflessly to neighbors, friends, and even a few strays. It was her lovingly generous personality that infected so many, so far.

Kate made a tremendous impact on the lives of those she touched, but her contribution to science, terrific teaching and undeniable compassion will be felt by those who never met her.

Kate is survived by her husband Okan Demirmen, mother, Louisa Walton McFadden, of Atlanta, GA, father, Dr. Isaac Joseph McFadden II of Memphis, TN, step-mother The Rev. Senter H. Crook of Memphis, TN, sister, Elizabeth Tilghman McFadden of Memphis, TN, brother, Isaac Joseph McFadden III of Atlanta, GA, father-in-law Dr. Ferruh Demirmen and mother-in-law Tulin Demirmen of Houston, TX, sister-in-law, Sibel Demirmen, brother-in-law Scott Henry of San Rafael, CA, brother-in-law, Steven Allen Holdsworth of Memphis, TN and two nieces and two nephews.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11:00 AM on Friday, October 31, 2014 at Davenport Funeral Home, with visitation to follow.

Donations may be made to World Wildlife Fund at www.worldwildlife.org.

Previous Events

Memorial Service

OCT **31**. 11:00 AM (ET)

Davenport Funeral Home
311 S Highway 11
West Union, SC 29696
(864) 638-3611
davenportfhome@gmail.com
<https://www.davenportfuneralhome.com>

Tribute Wall



“ *Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden*

January 28, 2023 at 01:03 PM



Kimberly Shephard

“ *Having just learned of Kate's passing, I'm deeply sorry to Okan and all of Kate's family. I knew her briefly, but I was glad to have spent time with her. Kate was warm and witty, beautiful inside and out. I believe she was the type of person to affect everyone she met in a positive way, and she was always kind to me. The world has lost a bright light.*

It would've been lovely to see you again one day. Rest in peace, sweet Kate.

-Kim (Dean) Shephard

Kimberly Shephard - March 28, 2015 at 10:10 PM



AG

“ *Kate was very sweet and so graceful. I will miss her very much. I wish all much peace.*

Andres

Andres Gomez - October 31, 2014 at 08:59 AM



GN

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Genia Naro-Maciel - October 31, 2014 at 08:15 AM

GN

“ *Genia Naro-Maciel purchased the Godiva Biscuit Gift Box (32 pc) for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.*



Genia Naro-Maciel - October 31, 2014 at 08:12 AM

GN

“ *1 file added to the tribute wall*



Genia Naro-Maciel - October 31, 2014 at 08:07 AM



“ *Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.*



October 31, 2014 at 07:07 AM

AN

“ *Grad school would've been a darker place without your company. Thank you. You'll never be forgotten. Anders.*

Anders - October 31, 2014 at 06:45 AM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.*



October 30, 2014 at 09:56 PM



“ *All of Kate's former colleagues and professors at Texas A&M University recall her with great fondness. I was fortunate to visit Kate several times at Columbia and present guest lectures in her classes. She was admired by her students and clearly loved interacting with them. She was establishing the same relationship at Clemson. She was a joy to know and we will never forget her.*

Tom Lacher - October 30, 2014 at 04:11 PM



“ *It saddens me to know that Dr. McFadden is no longer with us. In the time that she was at Clemson, I got to know her in and out of the classroom. Dr. McFadden was a great mentor and contributed a lot to the field of wildlife biology and conservation. My life is better for having known Dr. McFadden.*

Lindi Lagman - October 30, 2014 at 03:43 PM



“ *Patty and Hugh purchased the Celestial Love for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.*



Patty and Hugh - October 30, 2014 at 02:11 PM

GC

“ I wasn't blessed to know Kate personally, but as a member of the Clemson family please accept my deepest condolences during this difficult time.

Glenda Cotton - October 30, 2014 at 01:53 PM

KM

“ I had the brief pleasure of working with Kate catching turtles at Palmyra for a season and also kept in touch over the last five years. As a strong woman and brilliant scientist, she was an amazing role model. This loss is felt far and wide and I wish her friends and family every possible comfort in this horrible time.

Kim Maison

Kim Maison - October 30, 2014 at 01:39 PM

SS

“ SC Cooperative Research Unit faculty, staff and students purchased the Glorious Grace Bouquet for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.



SC Cooperative Research Unit faculty, staff and students -
October 30, 2014 at 01:31 PM

DR

“ Kate was the first person to really reach out to me in grad school. She was almost finished (or had just finished) when I started and I always looked up to her. This is a great loss for all the scientists who will never meet her. My deepest condolences to her family.

Dr. Jessica Rogers - October 30, 2014 at 12:47 PM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.



October 30, 2014 at 11:35 AM



“ *Beautiful in Blue* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.



October 30, 2014 at 10:02 AM



“ *It seems like yesterday when you were starting out in graduate school as a young naïve student. You went on to do so many great things and touched so many lives. Kate - you were lost too soon and the world is poorer for it. My thoughts are with everyone who knew you and through whom you will never be forgotten.*
Graham Worthy

Graham Worthy - October 30, 2014 at 09:54 AM



“ *Arrive in Style* was purchased for the family of Mrs. Katherine "Kate" Walton McFadden.



October 30, 2014 at 09:50 AM

DJ

“ *May God Bless Dr. McFadden's family. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of her family, co-workers and students.*

Deborah Jones - October 30, 2014 at 09:47 AM

GY

“ *Our thoughts and prayers are with Okan and Katie's family. Kate was an inspiration to all of us, and a role model for our students. She will be missed and mourned greatly by her colleagues, students, and friends at Clemson and across the many corners of the world where she worked and made a difference in conservation and the lives of many. -- Greg & Tina Yarrow*

Greg Yarrow - October 30, 2014 at 09:34 AM