

Lynda Hammond
THE GARAGE SALE GAL



Card Kathie

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Kathy McGuire read one of my recent columns and immediately went to her “happy room”.

The Gilbert resident made a “beeline” for her craft room to make a “sympathy” card. “To me it’s the most powerful way of expressing myself. Words evaporate into the air but when I hand someone a paper project that I made with my own hands it takes on a life of its own,” Kathie says.

Kathie read my column “Hunting, gathering routine can lead to road to recovery” in the *Republic* on May, 7. I had mentioned how distraught I was over the loss of my dog, Sadie. I got several letters from readers who sent their condolences—thank you for your heartfelt sentiments—it *does* help in the healing process. Meanwhile, Kathie opted to put her thoughts where she so often does--on paper.

The avid paper crafter created a one-of-a-kind card for me using several different colors of card stock paper, ribbon and gemstones. The card is unbelievable—she even sewed—yes, sewed the various papers together to make for a layered look deep with sentiment. “I wanted to make you something with my hands and heart. I’m a dog lover and I know what that kind of loss feels like. So my heart goes out to anybody that loses a pet they love.”

Yes, Kathie is definitely a dog lover. Her furry friends—Darby the poodle, (he’s Irish), Westin the Westie, Sparky the Papillon and Taffie, a Bichon Frise that waves hello and goodbye-- hang out with her in the craft room aka happy room—as Kathie likes to call it. “My friends and I realized that no matter what the mood, we were always happy inside of these four walls. So the name stuck.”

Kathie can be seen as a regular guest on 3-TVs *Your Life A-Z* demonstrating craft projects which is where we met about four years ago—when we were both appearing on the show. Kathie demonstrated her paper crafting talents and I shared buying and selling tips on garage sales (somehow, I think you knew that!).

We hadn’t talked for awhile, though, until she read that column.

I’m glad she did.

She arrived at my house with the card, a box and even a floral pin—all made with paper. Now, making all these things is incredible in of itself but Kathie buys most of her supplies at deep discount prices from—garage sales. “I go to about six garage sales a year but when I find a paper crafting garage sale I buy a huge amount.”

Kathie says she hit pay dirt at one garage sale where the family of an elderly woman was selling all her paper crafting supplies. She says she paid just under \$100 for pins, buttons, thread, paper and more for what likely would’ve cost \$5,000 at a store. Like any bargain hunting that big buy is forever etched in her memory. “I still remember the day. I called my husband and said ‘I just won the lottery.’ I was so excited”. Among the other “gems” that gets her all giddy are ribbons,

glitter, crimping tools, stamps (as in rubber stamp designs to transfer to paper), ink pads, eyelets and anything else that might add some pizzazz to a card.

It just goes to show you that whatever you may need—craft supplies, tools, furniture, anything; you can get it at a garage sale!



(pic provided by Lynda Hammond) Kathie McGuire, in her “happy room”, AKA craft room, holds the card she made for me recently.

Talk to the Garage Sale Gal!

Do you have a question or comment about garage or estate bargain sales? Email the Garage Sale Gal: Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com.

Lynda Hammond is a former television anchor who left the anchor desk for the love of garage sales. Contact her at Lynda@GarageSaleGal.com. Lynda also does garage sale segments on local TV stations.

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