



Mary Ann Burke

JUL 14, 1932 - DEC 18, 2011



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Mary Ann (Sharshan) Burke, 79, of Akron passed away on December 18 at Summa City Hospital in Akron. Calling hours will be held at the Sharer Stirling-Skivolocke Funeral Home in Alliance on Wednesday, December 21, from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. with a rosary following at 8:00 P.M. A Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Alliance at 10:00 A.M. on Thursday, December 22 with burial to follow at St. Joseph's Cemetery. Born in Youngstown on July 14, 1932, Mrs. Burke lived the majority of her adult in life in Alliance. She graduated from East High School in Youngstown and attended Youngstown State University. Mrs. Burke was very active with her church and in the community. A dedicated member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Alliance, she was a member of the Women's Guild, Catholic Women's Club, and the Bereavement and Hope Committee. A Woman of the Year honoree for her parish, she also was a Eucharistic Minister and with her late husband, Jere, served as Marriage Preparation Mentors for 20 years. She was also a member of the Knights of Columbus Auxiliary organization and initiated the Red Cross cookies project for blood drives. Most notably, she was founder of the Alliance Carnation Festival Week Nursing Home Ice Cream Socials and for her efforts, was, along with her husband, awarded the Ben S. Favazzo Sr. and Patrick H. Jeswold Founder's Award for their outstanding dedication to the Carnation City Festival and to the community of Alliance. Mrs. Burke was also a member of St. Hilary Catholic Church in Akron for the past five years. Her hobbies included reading, crafts, gardening, baking, attending the activities of her grandchildren, and avidly watching sporting events. Mrs. Burke was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald P. Jere Burke, in 2009. She also was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Catherine Garchar Sharshan; by brothers Eddie, John, and Nick Sharshan; and by sister, Louise Shary. She is survived by her daughter, Susan Marie Burke of Dublin and sons, Gregory Scott (Susu) of Natchitoches, Louisiana, Richard William of Akron,



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and Gerald Michael (Jill) of Hudson. Mrs. Burke also leaves nine grandchildren - Catherine Jean Burke of Natchitoches; Joseph, Nicholas, Abigail, and Nathaniel Gerald Burke of Akron, and their mother, Tracy Burke; Pacifique Niyonzima of Hudson; and Kelly (Chicago, IL), Maria, and Anthony Santa-Emma of Dublin. She also is survived by sisters Helen Sharshan of Youngstown and Frances Viggiano of New Castle, PA and sister-in-law Mary Sharshan of Youngstown. Also surviving her are brother-in-law William Burke of Poland, sister-in-law Betsy Mitchell of Austintown, and cousin of her late husband, Mary York (Ed) of Canfield., along with 12 nieces and nephews. Mrs. Burke will always be remembered as a loving and caring housewife whose goal was to tirelessly live each day to its fullest for her husband and children. She will forever be admired for her courageous battle with rheumatoid arthritis that extended over the final 35 years of her life yet never deterred her from serving her family, her church, and her community. Most importantly, she taught her children to care about others before caring about themselves and lived her Christian faith every day of her life. The family extends its gratitude to the physicians who cared for her over the years, especially Dr. William Wilke at the Cleveland Clinic; Dr. Richard Hofacker, DPM; family physician Dr. Michael Gedeon, and most recently, Dr. William C. Wojno at the Crystal Arthritis Center in Akron. Pallbearers will be grandsons Joseph, Nicholas, and Nathaniel Burke and Pacifique Niyonzima and friends of the family, John Admonius and Nick Tronolone.



Tribute Wall

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BL

Barb & Tom Layton posted:

Our thoughts are with your family. May the words in Psalms 145:18,19 give you hope and comfort.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

BD

Betty Davis posted:

Mary Ann was active with the ice cream socials during Carnation Week, and always asked me to play the piano for a couple of the socials. She and I shared a common burden, in that our husbands both had Alzheimers Disease. My sympathy goes to the family of a very fine lady.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

TI

Tami Tangi Iselin posted:

Dear Rick, Mike Greg and Sue, I was so sorry to hear of your loss. I have such fond memories of your mother. She always had a smile on her face and made everyone feel like she was in your corner. Since I have been out of the Ohio area for many years I had not seen her often but whenever I did there was always love there. Hold onto your great memories! She is now Smiling with your dad. God Bless you all Tami

March 30 at 8:00 PM

KH

Kathy Hatherill posted:

Your Mother was a LADY in every sence of the word. She taught me so much about a Mother's role in her family. She was an inspiration to so many and truely loved. My very deepest sympathy to the family.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

CS

Chriss Miller Schwieterman posted:

Dear Susie, Greg, Rick, and Mike, I was so sorry to hear about your mom. What wonderful memories I have of spending hours at your house making cookies, playing in the backyard, and just hanging out. Christmas eve also stands out. You were always going to open just one present each and before you knew it, they were all open! I love how everyone was included and loved by your family. What wonderful caring people your parents were. I am sorry that we have lost touch over the years. I will be mking some peanut butter kiss cookies in honor of Mrs. Burke for Christmas. Love, Chriss

March 30 at 8:00 PM



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TL

Tina (Garrett) Latimer posted:

Im so sorry to hear of the loss of your mom. She was a wonderful person and I have many fond memories from our childhood. My thoughts & prayers are with you all at this time.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

BF

Ben Frustos posted:

Greg & Family, My condolences on the loss of your mother. May God grant you comfort in knowing that she and your father are again together. I'm certain they are both quite proud of the wonderful legacy they leave behind in each of you. God Bless. Ben Frustos

March 30 at 8:00 PM

DR

Debbie (Detchon) Robertson posted:

My family and I extend our condolences to the entire Burke family. Remember the good times and those memories will help you through this trying time.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

SO

Sr. Marlene Lograsso,Osu posted:

Mary Ann was a member of St. Hilary Parish. She was very enthusiastic about being involved. Yes, she loved her family and she loved everyone who met her. I feel that I was graced by her presence.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

ME

Mary Everson posted:

There are not enough words to say how much I admired your Mom. I just loved her. She was such a role model and I enjoyed working with her at St. Joes.

March 30 at 8:00 PM

RB

Randy Biery posted:

Greg and Family, I am sorry to hear about your Mom. Please know that you and your family are in my thoughts and prayers. Randy Biery

March 30 at 8:00 PM



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GM

Gayle Miller posted:

Rick and family, Sorry to hear of the loss of your mother. My sincere condolences to you and your family. Gayle Miller

March 30 at 8:00 PM

CW

Catherine Workman posted:

Susan, I am so sorry to learn about the passing of your mother. My deepest sympathy goes out to you, the children and your extended family. Cath

March 30 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring Mary by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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