



Mrs. Mary Ellen (Williams) LaGray

October 19, 1936 - October 4, 2020

DEERFIELD - Mrs. Mary Ellen (Williams) LaGray, age 83, went home to the Lord on Sunday, October 4, 2020 when she peacefully passed away with her loved ones by her side.

Born in Utica on October 19, 1936, Mary Ellen was the daughter of the late David and Mary (Mulvihill) Williams. She was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School Class of 1955. On May 7, 1955 she and Albert C. LaGray celebrated their nuptials and began their marriage built upon family and faith. They were happily married for 61 years until Al's passing on May 2, 2016.

Mary Ellen worked for 28 years at Wonder Bread Bakery as the lead clerk at the 2nd Street Outlet Store. Always friendly and helpful, she was eager to share the day's best values with customers. Mary Ellen loved the Lord and praised his words and deeds. Engrained in her Christian ethic were humility, kindness, and trustworthiness. She found peace in the Lord's presence and if there was a Novena, a Liturgical celebration, or a Mass, she was there. A nurturing mother, she met her kids' needs and counseled them with the wisdom of her years. She was an ecstatic grandma who cherished time spent with her grandkids and made Church occasions and Mass a major part of their lives. Mary Ellen was an engaging and devoted Catholic, faithfully showing her great obedience at St. Mark's Church. She was a member of the Altar Rosary Society, Wednesday Night Rosary Group, served on the Parish Council, was a Eucharistic Minister, a Religious education Instructor for the communion classes, a member of the Catholic Daughters, volunteered at The Good News Foundation and a volunteer at all bazaars and church functions. It was often said that if there was a church activity, she was there. She also was an avid volunteer at The Stanley Theatre, The Hope House, the annual Heart Run/Walk and volunteered as a tutor at General Herkimer Elementary School.

She was also a savvy shopper, and held the "shop-till-you-drop" mindset, especially with her granddaughters Heather and Megan who will hold those sprees in their memories. It was a bond not to be forgotten. Thursdays were her weekly hairdresser appointment with her beloved hairdresser and dear friend Marianne, followed by an afternoon at the Deerfield Senior Center where she and her husband had a special closeness with Lura and Dorothy.

Recently, her grandson Gregory and fiancé Amanda moved in with her to assist in her daily needs, a true blessing for which she was grateful.

She is survived by her daughters and son-in-law, Kim and Jack Grower, and Susan LaGray; her grandchildren, Heather and Mark Dupont II; Gregory DeBernardis Jr. and Amanda Schultz, and Megan DeBernardis; her sisters and brother-in-law, Joan and Jake Vine, Suzanne Kratzenburg, and Ann Rose; her brothers and sisters-in-law, Richard and Janice Williams, Donald and Judy Williams, and James and Mary Williams; as well as many nieces and nephews, and cousins; sister-in-law, Jeanette LaGray; and the grace of good friends for all occasions and she will be so well remembered by many of them. In addition to her beloved parents, Mary and David, and faithful husband Albert, she was predeceased by her infant sibling David, and her sister and brother-in-law, Sara and Daniel Cozza and Bob Kratzenburg; nephew, Paul Cozza; niece and goddaughter, Jacqueline Cosamano; in-laws, Doris and Harriet (Gardner) LaGray; and brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, Edgar and Marge LaGray, Vincent LaGray, Edwin LaGray.

The family is grateful to the staff of the Abraham House in Rome who were wonderful, kind, and outstanding. Their hospitality and humanitarian mission were most appreciated, and their special care will never be forgotten.

Visitation will be held Friday evening from 5-7 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Due to current restrictions, we will be operating at a reduced occupancy. We ask for your patience as we try to accommodate those coming to support the LaGray family. Face masks must be worn and contact tracing will be implemented. Mary Ellen's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday morning at 10:00 at St. Mark's Church where her Mass of Christian Burial will be offered. Face masks are required and social distancing and contact tracing will be implemented. Memorial contributions in Mary Ellen's memory may be considered to St. Mark's Church, 440 Keyes Rd., Utica, NY 13502 or the Abraham House online at <https://www.theabrahamhoue.org/donate/>; envelopes will also be available at the funeral home. Interment will take place in Calvary Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

During this time of social distancing that we are all experiencing, please take a moment to connect with Mary Ellen's family through the "Memories" section of her obituary. Our prayers go out to all as a sign of our continued support.

Events

OCT **Visitation** 05:00PM - 07:00PM

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Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street, Utica, NY, US, 13501

OCT **Funeral Service** 10:00AM

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St. Mark's Church
440 Keyes Road, Utica, NY, US, 13502

Comments



“ I will miss her so very much .I was blessed to know her and spent time in Rosory at Carms house. May she rest in pease now . So sorry for your loss . may god get you thru this difficult time.

Lorraine Militano - October 21, 2020 at 09:05 AM



“ I am so sorry for your loss. Prayers for you and your family. Denise Gleba

Denise Gleba - October 09, 2020 at 09:28 PM



“ I'm very sorry for your lost. I do remember Mary Ellen from my childhood. She was a very kind woman. May you all find peace in God's Gracious Hands.

Sandy Hughes Cooley - October 09, 2020 at 04:27 PM



“ Aunt Mary Ellen - Always there to be a part of everything with a big, beautiful smile and generous hug. Family meant so much to her and no matter who you were she always made you feel special. She will be greatly missed by so many! Always remember - pictures yellow and fade but memories last forever! Keep her beautiful memory alive always!!

Kim Kratzberg - October 09, 2020 at 09:14 AM



“ KIM AND FAMILY, So sorry to hear of your Moms passing. She was a good friend, a great cook { loved our every other week lunches} and great co-worker. She truly was a "Wonder Woman". She will be missed. God Bless. Phyllis Ricco X

Phyllis Ricco - October 08, 2020 at 05:10 PM



“ My condolences on your loss.

Andy Frank - October 08, 2020 at 04:46 AM



“ Kim and family so , so sorry to hear about your mom . I always enjoyed visiting Mary Ellen at our Utica store and thought she ran one of the best bakery outlet stores ! My thoughts and prayers are with you and your family . May your beautiful memories help you through this difficult time.

Brenda Thompson - October 07, 2020 at 08:37 PM



“ Kim and family... my condolences to you. Donna Murphy

Donna M Murphy - October 07, 2020 at 07:24 PM



“ I met MaryEllen in my beauty shop as a client of Marriane. She was a wonderful person who you could talk to every Thursday morning . It is a void that can't be filled ...We will miss her ,our thoughts and prayers are with you at this difficult time. God Bless her and your family .

Janice Greer - October 07, 2020 at 02:22 PM



“ Beautiful Heart Bouquet was purchased for the family of Mrs. Mary Ellen (Williams) LaGray.



October 07, 2020 at 01:17 PM



“ Dick and Janice Williams purchased the Beautiful in Blue for the family of Mrs. Mary Ellen (Williams) LaGray.



Dick and Janice Williams - October 07, 2020 at 01:00 PM



“ So sorry for the loss of your Mother. George & Phylis Korrie

Phylis Korrie - October 06, 2020 at 06:16 PM