



Loretta Ruth (Taylor) Murray

April 27, 1932 - May 29, 2017

UTICA - Loretta Ruth (Taylor) Murray, age 85, passed away on Monday, May 29, 2017 at Little Falls Hospital with her loving family by her side.

Born in Utica on April 27, 1932, Loretta was the daughter of the late Harland W. "Unc" and Gladys (Myers) Taylor. She attended Albany Elementary School and was a graduate of T.R. Proctor High School with the distinction of Salutatorian of the Class of 1950. She continued her education at Elmira College earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. Loretta then worked her way across the country and while visiting her friends in Alaska she met, dated, and married Thomas F. Murray/US Air Force and was blessed with the birth of their son Tom. Their travels continued and they settled in Ithaca while Tom attended Cornell University and Kelly was born. Their next stop was Greenville, South Carolina where Susie joined the family. The paths of life often diverge, and upon her divorce, Loretta returned to her hometown and continued to raise her children together with her parents. Memorial Day was always special and as the children grew, their patriotism, personal pride, and devotion to duty grew. Family tradition inspired her son to serve in the United States Navy and her daughter in the United States Marine Corps.

Loretta accepted a position as secretary at the Head Start program and subsequently worked at the Y.W.C.A. as the Youth Program Director and Summer Camp Director, a vocation she enjoyed. She then accepted a job at the American Red Cross as Director of Service to Military and Disaster Relief. She persisted throughout her life to honor humanitarian values and her work

was always focused on those in need. She had a streak of persistence throughout her life which was grounded by good values and moral responsibility. Loretta leaves a legacy of community service that will live on in the generations that follow her.

Loretta was interested in world affairs and kept up on current events by reading the Daily Press, Observer-Dispatch, and Syracuse Post Standard for years, as well as gaining knowledge from the popular news channels. She favored Law & Order and enjoyed British television dramas on PBS including Masterpiece Theatre and Prime Suspect. She was an avid Agatha Christie fan. Loretta also had a sense of humor and drove around town in her convertible, and travelled in her station wagon to visit family or embarking upon adventures with her lifelong girlfriend, Shirley Meola Castano. She took an interest in family genealogy and flower gardening, recreational painting, homemade candy, and creative gift wrapping involving plenty of tape!

Christmas was always honored and her Christmas tree was decorated with attention. At the end of the day, it was her children, grandchildren, and the little ones who sparked her life and loved her. She shared their adventures, showered them with whimsical, memorable gifts, and will be a shining star to light their way to all the places they will go.

Loretta is survived by her son and daughter-in-law, Commander Thomas F. Murray IV/US Navy, Retired and Gloria, of Maryland; her daughters and son-in-law, Kelly and Bruce Caskey of Gansevoort NY, and Colonel Susan L. Murray/US Marine Corps, Retired and Robert Wright of Glens Falls NY; her grandchildren, Christopher P. and Katelyn Cittadino, David M. Cittadino and fiancée Taylor Ray, Alexandra Murray, and Andrew Murray; and her great-grandchildren, Samuel P.; and Avery Celeste. She also leaves her brother and sister-in-law, Paul and Vicki Taylor; and cousins, especially Natalie Baker. The family extends gratitude to Dr. Norman Freund, the Nurse Practitioner, nurses, and staff of Little Falls Hospital who made a difficult time more bearable by their medical guidance and gentle care; and the staff of Valley Health Services, especially Marilyn Shaw, and the facility's hairdresser, Ceil

who took the time to tend to Loretta's needs with compassion and concern. Visitation will be held Saturday from 12:00-1:30 at the Eannace Funeral Home, Inc., 932 South St., corner of Hammond Ave. Loretta's funeral service and Celebration of Life will commence on Saturday afternoon at 1:30 at the conclusion of visitation with Sister Betty Giarrusso, CSJ, officiating the ceremony. Interment will take place in St. Agnes Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

Cemetery Details

St. Agnes Cemetery

601 Arthur Street
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 732-8588

Previous Events

Visitation

JUN 3. 12:00 PM - 1:30 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Celebration of Life

JUN 3. 1:30 PM (ET)

Eannace Funeral Home, Inc.
932 South Street
corner of Hammond Ave.
Utica, NY 13501
(315) 724-6714
eannacefh@roadrunner.com

Tribute Wall

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“ Dear Family,

I was unable to attend Ginger's viewing, but I wanted you to know I was thinking of your family. I have fond memories of working with her at the YWCA along with Elizabeth, Grace, Skippy, Jean, Wanda and of course my mom, Tangie, and the rest of the gang. We were like a family at that time. She was a lovely woman and is remembered fondly.

*Sincerely,
Candace Rezey-Gazzal*

Candace Rezey-Gazzal - June 05, 2017 at 10:55 AM

CK

“ *So saddened by the loss of Ginger. I worked as her secretary at American Red Cross in Utica and valued her friendship long after my move to Florida. Please know that my thoughts & prayers will be with you all during this difficult time. Sincerely, Carole Kociolek*

Carole Kociolek - June 02, 2017 at 10:43 AM



“ *White Standing Spray was purchased for the family of Loretta Ruth (Taylor) Murray.*



June 01, 2017 at 11:05 AM

DG

“ *Dr. Marshall S. Grillo purchased the Lavender Dreams for the family of Loretta Ruth (Taylor) Murray.*



Dr. Marshall S. Grillo - June 01, 2017 at 09:01 AM